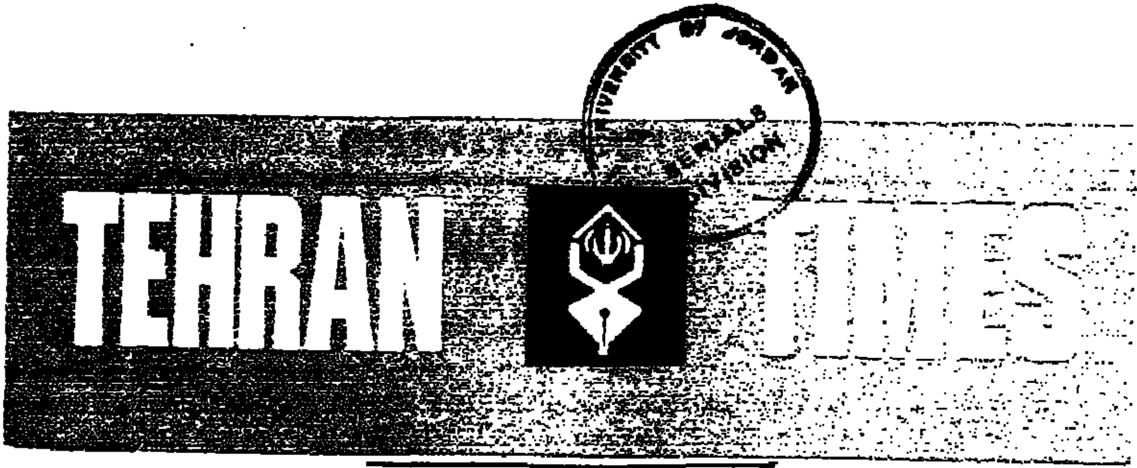
NATO Refuses Prior Agreement With Russia

BRUSSELS — NATO will not enter into any prior agreement with Russia before embarking on its planned eastward expansion, a NATO official said Monday.

He said Secretary General Javier Solana on Monday gave this unequivocal message to visiting Russian Security Chief Alexander Lebed. (AFP)



24 PAGES; PRICE 200 RIALS

VOL. XVIII; No. 154; TUESDAY OCTOBER 8, 1996; MEHR 17, 1375; JAMADIAL-AWAL 24, 1417

Hamas Calls For New Intifada After "Failure" of Talks

BEIRUT — The Islamic group Hamas called Monday for a new Intifada (uprising) against Israeli forces in the Palestinian territories after the "failure" of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

"We consider that the failure of the Washington summit and the negotiations at Beit Hanoun (Erez), which did not satisfy the just demands of our people, constitutes a green light for our masses and Mujahedeen brigades to resume resistance with all available means against the crime of the tunnel and the other crimes of the evil occupier," Hamas said in a statement in Beirut.

I criticized Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) for "holding to the (peace) accords, repressing the Intifada of the Al-Aqsa (mosque in Bait-ul-Moqaddas), quelling the anger of our heroic people against the tunnel and pursuing the sterile talks taking place under conditions imposed by the Zionists."

Israel's decision to open a new entrance to an archeological tunnel near the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Bait-ul-Moqaddas, Islam's third holiest site, sparked bloody Israeli-Palestinian clashes late last month in which more than 80 people died.

An emergency peace summit was held in Washington last week after which Israel and the PA opened non-stop peace negotiations at the Erez crossing on the Israeli-Gaza border on Sunday.

The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) said the ongoing talks represented a "failure" because they were taking place under Israeli-imposed conditions and were aimed at "distracting our people with more false promises."

"Continuing the talks on the basis of the determination of the PA to repress resistance acts and popular uprisings as well as the resumption of cooperation with

(Contd on Pg. 22)

Tons of Explosives Confiscated From Croats

SARAJEVO — The NATO-led Peacekeeping Force (IFOR) has confiscated 10 tons of explosives that were being illicitly delivered to the Bosnian Croat Forces (HVO), IFOR said Monday.

Spokesman Simon Haselock said that the explosives were discovered at the weekend in two lorries traveling from Croatia, which backed the Bosnian Croats during the three-and-a-half year war, towards the southern Bosnian town of Trebinje.

"An IFOR patrol stopped two military trucks belonging to the HVO between Trebinje and the Croatian border," Haselock told a press conference here.

"All military movements must be approved in advance and this one was not ... ten tones of explosives were confiscated and will be destroyed," he said.

(AFP)

Islamic Revolution Able to Run the Country, Fulfill Needs of a Great Nation

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali khamenei, in a meeting here on Monday with the country's Friday prayer leaders, denounced the fratricide and shelling of the cities and defenseless people in Afghanistan as a counter-Islamic move and considered the U.S. support for an Afghan group unfamiliar with the Islamic laws an effort to oppose the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Leader reiterated that in a country neighboring on Iran, unfortunately a group which it is not known to what extent is familiar with Islam is taking some measures in the name of Islam that are not approved of by Islam. "If an example is to be cited regarding reactionaryism, prejudice and ignoring human rights, the group serves as a good example," the grand ayatollah further noted.

The world is witnessing the fact that the U.S. lauds the group

(Contd on Pg. 22)



Photo: Kaveh Ahmadi

TEHRAN (October 7) — On the sideline of the nationwide annual gathering of the Friday prayer leaders, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei receives Head of the Assembly of Experts and Qom Friday prayer leader, Ayatollah Ali Meshkini. 400 of Shia and Sunni Friday prayer leaders from across the country gathered here to participate in the 3-day meeting and discuss current domestic affairs and coordintate their policies during the upcoming year.

Taleban Switch Tactics in Panjshir

GULBAHAR, Afghanistan — The Taleban militia have switched tactics in a key battle against former government troops in the Panjshir Valley in a bid to consolidate their grip on Afghanistan, a frontline commander said Monday.

Abandoning the only available land route, the Taleban militia have begun scaling the mountainside to reach one of their last major foes, ex-Defense Minister Ahmad Shah Masood, following their takeover of the capital Kabul on September 26.

"All the Taleban are up on the mountain-tops, we are just backing them up," a Taleban artilleryman told AFP.

In stark contrast to the past two days, the entrance to the Panjshir Valley was completely deserted of Taleban religious militia, and there were only a few jeeps in the bazaar of the nearby town of Gulbahar.

"All the Taleban left in the early morning for that ridgeline," said a Taleban commander, indicating the peaks that form the eastern flank of the Panjshir Valley.

The battle for the Panjshir may well decide the future of Masood and ousted President Burhanuddin Rabbani, as they have only three northern provinces — Kunduz, Takhar and Badakhshan — to fall back to.

Whether Masood's former ally, Uzbek faction leader ex-communist General Abdul Rashid Dostam remains neutral, joins the Taleban, or rejoins Masood, is yet undecided.

Both the Taleban and Masood have been trying to woo Dostam on side as the Uzbek warlord controls a formidable infantry fighting force backed up with armor and an air force.

The Taleban have advanced up the pass towards the Salang Tunnel but there have been no clashes between them and Dostam's men.

(AFP)

Education, Protection Against Cultural Inroads

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Head of Iran's Center of Science and Culture, Ali Shariatmadari, here said that the obscene culture of the West cannot penetrate Islamic society if the people are conscious of their real responsibility to society and attain an intellectual level which enables them to be in control of their sensual desires and feelings.



SHARIATMADARI

Speaking in an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times*, Shariatmadari emphasized cultural and scientific exchange as well as cooperation among various countries as hallmarks of a healthy society, saying the West is opposed to such efforts for fear of their influence on the youth and the dissemination of correct cultural values.

As a member of the board of the Public Culture Council, Shariatmadari said that ulemas, scholars, university professors and students, as well as all culture-inclined persons, shoulder a

(Contd on Pg. 22)

Europe Wants to Help Push Peace Politically, Economically

CAIRO — Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said here on Monday that the European Union (EU) wants to help push forward the Middle East peace process "politically and economically."

"The message to the Israelis is that Europe wants to be helpful and wants to participate, that it wants to see concrete steps be taken to implement the peace process," Spring told reporters after talks with Foreign Minister Amr Mussa. "It wants to be helpful economically and politically."

Spring's visit to Egypt, during which he will also meet President Hosni Mubarak, is the last leg of a tour of Israel and Gaza where he had talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat.

"We have emphasized that we want to be helpful in the process, that we want to see steps taken, concrete steps that show the world that the peace process is on track, that there is momentum in

(Contd on Pg. 22)



BAIT-UL-MOQADDAS (October 6): Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring (R) talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, prior to their meeting in Bait-ul-Moqaddas. Spring was given the envoy mission by EU foreign ministers during their summit in Dublin after Israeli-Palestinian violence which left over 80 dead late September.

(AFP PHOTO)

Deputy FM: Russian Exclusion Doomed Mideast Summit

MOSCOW — Russia said Monday that last week's Middle East crisis summit in Washington had failed to make any progress because Moscow was excluded from the gathering, Interfax news agency reported.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Posuvalyuk told the agency that Moscow regretted that the summit, called after four days of clashes between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians which left more than 80 dead, "actually made no headway on a single key agenda issue."

"The situation at the talks is heavily deadlocked with signs of crisis in evidence," Pasuvalyuk said, adding that the gathering "graphically showed that collective efforts of both co-sponsors are essential for progress at the talks."

(Contd on Pg. 22)

TEHRAN TIMES

TEHRAN TIMES NEWS SERVICE
Editor-in-Chief, Tel: 8809500
Editorial Office, Tel: 8810293-5
Electronic Access Tel: 8809437
8809470
Telex: 213662 TTIM IR
224569 TTIP IR
Fax No. 8808214
Address: No. 32, Koucheh Bimeh
Nejatollahi Ave. [former Villa]
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Printed at Keyhan

In the Name of Allah

And Musa said: O Firon! surely I am an apostle from the Lord of the worlds:

(HOLY QORAN)(7:104)

OPINION

Time Is Ripe for Iran-Saudi Rapprochement

The Zionist regime has virtually scrapped the peace process. The ball is in the regional countries' court.

Iran and Saudi Arabia are two influential countries in the Muslim world. Their cooperation can pave the way for multilateral cooperation among Muslim countries to consolidate the anti-Israeli bloc.

For several reasons closer Iran-Saudi relations would facilitate closer ties among regional countries.

Iran is the most powerful country of the region. Iran's pre-eminence in the region stems from its geopolitical characteristics: it has the longest coastline in the Persian Gulf, stretching from the Arvand Rud to the Sea of Oman, overseeing the strategic Strait of Hormuz. Iran's population is more than that of all Persian Gulf countries combined. The Iranian Army is a battlefield tested army.

On its part, Saudi Arabia is the world's largest exporter of oil. It has a long coastline on the southern part of the Persian Gulf. It is the custodian of the holy sites of Mecca and Medina. It enjoys considerable influence among regional countries, to the extent that some of them consider it to be their "big brother".

Unfortunately, since the victory of the glorious Islamic Revolution, through resorting to the policy of "divide and rule," the U.S. has succeeded in creating a devastating gulf between Iran and its neighbors on the other side of the Persian Gulf.

Our brothers on the other side of the Persian Gulf should be wise enough to learn a lesson from the events of the past seventeen years.

The recent unfolding of events in the occupied territories practically testifies that the main enemy of the countries of the Persian Gulf region is the Zionist regime.

Today, all regional countries are threatened by the Zionist regime. In case of another conflict in the Middle East, the Zionists will spare none of them.

Muslim countries of the region should sever their ties with the Zionist regime and put pressure on the supporters of Tel Aviv to stop their support of the Zionist regime.

The Persian Gulf countries should once again employ their oil as a weapon to bring the supporters of the Zionist regime to their senses. The memory of the 1973 oil embargo has not yet faded. Smoother relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia will increase the maneuver power of Muslims vis-a-vis their arch-enemy: the Zionist regime.

Iran Observes Higher Standards for Refugee Protection

LONDON — UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata warned Monday that despite international commitments to uphold the right of asylum, standards of refugee protection was actually being eroded in many countries.

She cited Iran as one of the positive signals for refugee issues in 1996, when it opened its borders in September to allow 40,000 Kurds to take refuge from fighting in northern Iraq.

In a speech to the annual meeting of the UNHCR's 51-member Executive Committee, Ogata reaffirmed the right to seek asylum from persecution and urged decisionmakers to combat prejudice and to share the burden of major asylum countries.

Her criticism of industrialized countries follows Iran's complaints about the lack of international response to the plight of Iraqi Kurds fleeing to its border last month, having already to cope with the world's largest number of refugees on meager aid.

According to extracts of her Geneva speech, the high commissioner attacked the burden as being "very unevenly divided, between and within continents" and that it was essential that the humanitarian character of asylum be preserved.

Access to territory, she said, had been "either denied outright, as a result of push-offs of boat people and rejections at borders, or complicated by new legislative restrictions."

In a further slight to some Western countries, Ogata also urged decision-makers to "de-dramatize" the scale of some asylum-seeker problems, saying requests were declining in most industrial countries.

On the massive obstacles being erected to prevent civilians returning to their homes in Bosnia, she pleaded that those unable to return not to be pushed back and for their right to return not to be surrendered.

(IRNA)

Azeri Vice-Speaker Confers With President, Speaker

TEHRAN -- President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said here on Monday that to make better use of Iran's and Azerbaijan's potentials for expansion of Tehran-Baku commercial, economic and cultural relations, desirable planning should be adopted.

Hojjatoleslam Rafsanjani, speaking to Deputy Chairman of the Azeri National Assembly (Milli Majlis) Yashar Aliyev, added that considering their religious, cultural and historical commonalties, Iran and Azerbaijan have not managed yet to make proper use of their potential in order to improve their commercial, economic and cultural ties.

He also underlined the will of Iranian officials to help solve the difficulties facing the people of Nakhichevan.

Aliyev said for his part that the second session of Iran-Azerbaijan Joint Economic Commission would be a suitable opportunity for reaching agreements on expansion

(Contd on Pg. 23)



Photo: Mojtaba Tabib

TEHRAN (Oct. 7) -- President Rafsanjani receives visiting Azeri Vice-Speaker Yashar Aliyev here Monday.

Rasooli: Annual Gathering of Prayer Leaders Convenes

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The 12th annual three-day gathering of the Friday prayer leaders from all over the country was opened here on Monday. The meeting is held every year in order to coordinate the activities and remove the problems linked to holding Friday congregational prayers.

On the first day of their gathering, the Friday prayer leaders called on the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei. The Leader offered appropriate guidelines on streamlining the cultural activities of the prayer leaders and stressed their significant task.

Nearly 400 Shiite and Sunni Friday prayer leaders are taking part in this year's gathering, who will coordinate their policies and activities in the year to come. The issues that the theologians are expected to deal with, such as the issue of the youth and the current issues related to society and the Islamic Revolution, are on the agenda for the meeting.

Considering that the next presidential election will be the

(Contd on Pg. 23)

Iranian Ambassador Meets Yemeni Acting FM

TEHRAN — Iran's Ambassador to San'a, Morteza Rahimi, on Saturday reviewed with Acting Foreign Minister of Yemen, Abd al-Rahman, current developments in the Middle East as well as Iran-Yemen relations.

The Iranian envoy also delivered a verbal message from the foreign minsiter of Iran to the Yemeni official on proposed cooperation between the two countries at regional and international organizations.

The Yemeni official expressed pleasure with amicable relations between Iran and Yemen and observed that his government would welcome cooperation with Iran in those organizations.

(IRNA)

Boronjerdi: Current Situation in Afghanistan Due to Foreign Intervention

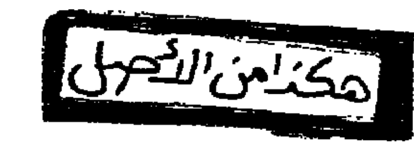
TEHRAN — Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Oceania Affairs Alaeddin Boroujerdi said to IRNA here Sunday that the current developments in Afghanistan had been the consequence of foreign intervention and massive deployment of externally-supported troops in that country.

Without referring to any foreign power in name, he said ever since the military involvement of that power in Afghanistan the balance of power in that country had tilted to one side.

He continued in the same interview with IRNA Sunday:

"Iran has never sought to dispatch troops to Afghanistan for intervening in regional developments. The Islamic Republic considers foreign intervention in Afghanistan as a factor aggrevating the crisis and instability in the region and maintains that the flames of the fire burning in Afghanistan will eventually engulf

(Contd on Pg. 23)



Irano-Europe Trade Improves

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iran's trade with leading Western countries has shown further signs of recovery this year, boosted by continuing rises in oil exports and a reversal in the decline of imports over the past few years.

The trend indicates that Iran's trade surplus with the European Union is expected to soar past $3 billion in 1996, with firm oil prices adding to the extra trade gained from the extension of last year's U.S. boycott, IRNA reported.

Trade figures quoted by *Middle East Economic Digest* show that French imports soared by over 50 percent in the first five months of this year to $598 million and sales to Italy by 70 percent to $613 m in the first quarter.

French exports to Iran have also reversed last year's decline, rising by 30 percent in the first five months to $306 million while Italy has recovered some of its 1995 losses by registering a 10 percent increase to $135 million.

UK imports during the first half of 1996 have also gone up by over 9 percent to $140 million. At the same time its exports have reported a further 7 percent growth to $275 million.

The drop in trade with Iran's biggest supplier, Germany, which has suffered more than others in recent years, appears to be bottoming out, even though its exports fell to $415 million between January and April and imports to $237 million.

More mixed has been trade with Japan, Iran's biggest market, whose imports were up 15 percent to $1.4 billion in the first half of 1996, but its exports were down by nearly 10 percent to an all-time low.

Oman Scraps $10-billion Gas Project With India

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Oman has abandoned the $10 billion underwater gas pipeline project with India due to financial and technological problems, Indian news agencies reported.

This was announced by Omani Commerce and Industry Minister Maqbool bin Ali Sultan before a news conference in Muscat on the last day of Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma's visit to the sultanate on Sunday.

The Omani minister said that the proposal could be considered "paractically off" because of "technological snags" and "lack of investors' interests."

"Friends have to be frank and we have told India that the project is not as good as we envisaged," said the minister.

The project could be reviewed if there was a technological breakthrough in the future, the Ommanese minister, however, said.

The two countries had signed a memorandum of understanding in 1993 to study a project with twin pipeline of 1,300 km. from Oman through Arabian Sea to the western Indian state of Gujrat.

If completed, the project could have initially exported one billion cubic feet of Omani gas to India daily from 1999.



TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani speaks to the officials of the Ministery of Post, Telegraph and Telephone here yesterday. The officials of the ministry met with president on the occasion of International Post Day, October 8.

Iran, Azerbaijan Sign Memorandum

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iran and Azerbaijan signed a memorandum of understanding for mutual economic cooperation here on Monday.

The memo was signed by the deputy chairman of Azeri National Assembly and the Azeri Head of Iran-Azerbaijan Joint Economic Commission Yashar Aliyev and Cooperatives Minister and the Iranian head of the commission Gholam-Reza Shafeie, IRNA reported.

Shafeie said the two sides at the end of the second session of the joint commission agreed to form 12 commissions in charge of expanding mutual cooperation in the fields of transportation, industries and mines, energy and power, oil and gas, commerce and banking affairs, customs affairs and telecommunications.

He said that based on the letter of the undrstanding Iran would provide natural gas to the Autonomous Republic of Nakhichevan for a 30-year period through a pipeline to be laid soon in order to remove the republic's gas shortage.

He added that among other spheres for cooperation in which the two neighbors have reached agreement are agriculture, fisheries and animal husbandry.

The Iranian official continued that the telecommunications committee members also exchanged views on implementation of two key projects.

Aliyev, voicing satisfaction over the agreements reached between the two sides, said the agreements would pave the way for more cooperation between the two parties.

He expressed hope that mutual cooperation would grow gradually and that the "positive" outcomes of the session would leave favorable impacts on bilateral ties.

The Azeri official said that laying gas piplines from Khoy to Julfa was the most important agreement reached between the two sides.

Iranian, Armenian Ministers Review Bilateral Cooperation

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Urban Development Minister of the Republic of Armenia Pirmian and Iran's Minister of Housing and Urban Development Abbas Ahmad Akhoundi on Saturday reviewed prospects for cooperation between Iran and Armenia in that field, IRNA reported.

The Iranian minister told his Armenian counterpart that the Urban Development Ministry of Armenia would not have any problem in their dealings with civil engineering and construction companies in Iran since the Iranian government would offer them necessary support.

The Armenian Minister of Urban Development said that investment in urban development had considerably increased in the wake of the collapse of communism. He added that Iranian investors could rest assured about the profitability of their investements in Armenia.

Mideast Poised to Profit From Boom In Asian Oil Demand

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Middle East oil producers are poised to benefit from a boom in world oil demand fuelled mainly by Asia but they must shake up their economies to make the most of it, international oil experts said Monday.

At a conference in Nicosia on Middle East oil strategy until 2009, experts said the main future trend would be on a one-million-barrel increase in Asian oil demand per year and how Arab producers will cope, an AFP dispatch reported yesterday.

Ikuo Misumi of the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Asia would become increasingly dependent on Arab producers as its oil consumption will rise to 982.7 million tons in 2010, up from 604.3 million in 1992.

"The dependency on foreign oil supplies in the entire East Asian region will reach about 70 percent, and most of the foreign oil suppliers to the region will most likely be countries in the Middle East," Ikuo told the conference in Cyprus.

He said China's oil consumption is likely to overtake Japan's before 2010, while demand from ASEAN nations (Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei and Malaysia) is projected to draw level.

With demand from South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong set to reach three-quarters of Japan's consumption, "there will be three more Japans out there by 2010 with the Middle East expected to meet the challenge," Ikuo said.

"As the importance of energy from the Middle East for East Asian countries continues to grow significantly, it is necessary to foster a closer relationship between the two regions," he said.

Japan wants to see more foreign investment in the Middle East, closer technological cooperation and greater dialogue between the two regions, Ikuo said.

Ismail Ibrahim, Head of Energy at the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), said world oil demand growth in 2010 is projected to reach 9.6 million barrels per day compared to 1995, with OPEC countries set to provide 96 percent of the extra supplies.

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), Middle East countries will get the lion's share.

"The Middle East will be a pivotal player because of its huge reserves and low development costs," said Michael Williams, a senior IEA economist.

But they must press ahead with fiscal restraints, privatisation programs and measures to attract foreign participation already underway to reap the maximum benefit, he said.

"If the process continues we believe they will be able to attract the necessary investment into their production to meet the growing oil demand.

"Japanese dependency on the region's oil already stands at 76 percent while other Asian countries are trying to develop a relationship with the Middle East right now with the likes of joint refinery projects," he added.

Other delegates to the three-day oil conference here spoke of the problems still hampering the Middle East.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Maleki said in a paper read out to the conference that "foreign interference" in the region was increasing tension and hampering economic development.

Europe Unites Against U.S. Economic Unilateralism

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The European Union has rightly asked the World Trade Organization (WTO) to declare as violative of global trade rules and unacceptable to the international community the unilateral U.S. trade laws against Cuba, Libya and Iran, says *National Herald*, an English newspaper of India.

"It is an act of rare unity and consensus by the 15-nation European Union," adds the *National Herald* in its editorial, "trade interests pit Europe against U.S.," yesterday.

In view of Iran and Libya's contribution of 20 percent of EU's total import of oil, EU nations' investments and trading interests in the two countries, "particularly in Iran," the U.S. trade sanctions on them could not but have been perceived by the Europeans as extra-territorial in their application and totally detrimental to their economic interests, says the editorial.

As one assesses it, mentions the editorial, the new approach of the EU is its new strategy to convey its political resolve to defend itself.

"With the toughening of European Union's stance, chances of WTO giving a ruling against the American trade laws can not be ruled out. It is to be seen how the United States, which has been habituated with taking unilateral trade decisions, would tackle the situation, concludes the editorial.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

The following table shows the foreign exchange rates in rials as released by the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Monday, Oct, 7 1996.

COUNTRY	UNIT	Floating Rates BUY	Floating Rates SELL	Export Rates BUY	Export Rates SELL
Australia	dollar	1,379	1,387	2,388	2,380
Austria	schilling	162	163	278	280
Belgium	(100)francs	5,544	5,575	9,517	9,565
Canada	dollar	1,289	1,297	2,214	2,225
Denmark	krone	298	300	511	514
France	franc	337	339	579	582
Germany	mark	1,141	1,148	1,959	1,969
Holland	guilder	1,017	1,023	1,746	1,755
Italy	(100)liras	115	116	197	198
Japan	(100)yen	1,567	1,576	2,689	2,703
Swiss	franc	1,390	1,398	2,385	2,397
UAE	dirham	476	479	818	820
UK	pound	2,735	2,751	4,696	4,719
U.S.	dollar	1,750	1,755	3,000	3,015

Canada Ready to Expand Ties With Iran

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Despite U.S. opposition, Iran and Canada are to exchange $750 million worth of goods this year, said Canadian Ambassador to Tehran Charles Michael de Salbery in an interview with IRNA here on Sunday.

Salbery said that his country was ready to raise volume of its transactions with Iran and to cooperate with Iran or invest in the fields of energy, telecommunications, packaging industries and foodstuff products.

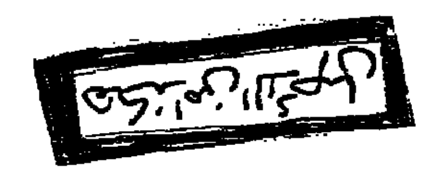
Despite drought and a drop in oil price, said Salbery, volume of commercial transactions between Iran and Canada last year stood at nearly $600 million.

Iran is the second major trade partner of Canada in the economic and trade spheres, added the Canadian diplomat.

He reiterated that Ottawa was ready to expand its ties with Iran in all dimensions.

He added that he had held talks with chambers of commerce, Irano- Canadian cooperation council and an important Canadian organization on facilitating commerce between the two countries.

He said that fortunately, Iran and Canada had no financial problems with each other and Iran had abided by its obligations.



Focus on Nobel Literary Award

Wislawa Szymborska of Poland Awarded Nobel Prize for Literature



STOCKHOLM, Sweden: The awards ceremony in Stockholm's Concert Hall December 10,1995.

(AFP PHOTO)

STOCKHOLM — Polish poet and critic Wislawa Szymborska has been awarded the 1996 Nobel Prize for Literature, the fourth Polish winner of the prestigious prize, the Swedish Academy announced on Thursday.

In awarding the prize, the academy praised the 73-year old writer "for poetry that with ironic precision allows the historical and biological context to come to light in fragments of human reality."

"With her distance and commitment, Szymborska accords full support to her idea that no questions are of such significance as those that are naive. From this position she presents her poetic deliberations in a form that is fastidious while her register, paradoxically enough, is extensive, continually shifting in every respect," the academy said in its citation.

"Since 1957 — when censorship had lost its stranglehold after the thaw of the previous year — she has published a handful of slim but powerful collections of poems, a few volumes of book reviews and a number of highly esteemed translations of earlier French poetry," it said.

Wislawa Szymborska, who lives in Krakow, will be presented with the award, and a cheque for 7.4 million kronor ($1.12 million), at the official awards ceremony in Stockholm on December 10, the anniversary of the death of the Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel in 1896.

Last year, the academy honoured Irish writer and poet Seamus Heaney, the third Irishman to win the literature prize.

(AFP)

Poetess Is Fourth Pole to Win Nobel Literature Prize

(Tehran Times Service)

TEHRAN — The woman poet and critic Wislawa Szymborska is the fourth Polish citizen to win the Nobel Prize for Literature since the prize was instituted in 1901.

One of the three previous Polish laureates, Czeslaw Milosz, has dual Polish and U.S. nationality.

1996: Wislawa Szymborska 1980: Czeslaw Milosz 1924: Wladyslaw Stanislaw Reymont 1905: Henryk Sienkiewicz

Examples of Nobel Winner's Poetry

The following three selections are A.P's choice examples of the poetry of Wislawa Szymborska, winner of the 1996 Nobel Prize in Literature. The selections are from books translated from Polish into English.

"In praise of feeling bad about yourself"
The buzzard never says it is to blame.
The panther wouldn't know what scruples mean.
When the piranha strikes, it feels no shame.
If snakes had hands, they'd claim their hands were clean.
A jackal doesn't understand remorse.
Lions and lice don't waver in their course.
Why should they when they know they're right?
Though hearts of killer whales may weigh a ton,
In every other way they're light.
On this third planet of the sun, among the signs of bestiality
A clear conscience is Number One.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

From "The Joy of Writing"
The joy of writing.
Power of preserving.
The revenge of a mortal hand.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

From "On Death, Without Exaggeration"
There is no life
That couldn't be immortal
If only for a moment.



STOCKHOLM, Sweden : Before the Nobel Prize Committe reception at the Swedish Academy in Stockholm December 9, (1995) the Nobel Prize laureates pose for a family photo.

(AFP PHOTO)

Bravery at a Glance

Billboards at the Fronts

Part 2

Tehran Times Service



Smile brother!

* Drink water and remember Imam Hussein's (A.S.) thirst.

* Beware! God is watching!

* Israel must be totally destroyed.

* Islam is the dearest.

* If the authorities won't heed the *basijies* (mobilization forces), they'll deserve hell!

Courtesy: The Fronts' Culture, compiled by S. M. Fahimi

Excerpts From Nobel Literature Prize Citation for Wislawa Szymborska

"With her distance and commitment (Wislawa) Szymborksa accords full support to her idea that no questions are of such significance as those that are naive. From this position she presents her poetic deliberations in a form that is fastidious while her register, paradoxically enough, is extensive, continually shifting in every respect. In her discourse, there is a striking combination of esprit, inventiveness and empathy, which calls to mind both the Renaissance and the Baroque.

"Szymborska's criticism of civilization often finds expression in an irony made more scathing by its very restraint: 'There is no such thing as a self-critical jackal.' In this way her muse becomes subversive in the best meaning of that term.

"Translations vouchsafe us glimpses of her mastery of technique, even in rhymed verse. Her diction is finely chiseled and at the same time free of mannerism. What lies behind this is spelled out in the poem *'Under One Small Star'*: 'Don't bear me ill will, speech, that I borrow weighty words,/then labor heavily so that they may seem light.' She has been described as the Mozart of poetry, not without justice in view of her wealth of inspiration and the veritable ease with which her words seem to fall into place. But as can be seen from the quotation, there is also something of the fury of Beethoven in her creative work.'

(AP)

Polish Poet Ninth Woman to Win Nobel Literature Prize

(Tehran Times Service)

TEHRAN - - Polish poetess and critic Wislawa Szymborska is the ninth woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. Herewith a list of the female winners.

1996: Wislawa Szymborska (Poland) 1993: Toni Morrison (United States) 1991: Nadine Gordimer (South Africa) 1966: Nelly Sachs (Sweden, jointly with Shmuel Yosef Agnon of Israel) 1945: Gabriela Mistral (Chile) 1938: Pearl Buck (United States) 1928: Sigfrid Undset (Norway) 1926: Grazia Deledda (Italy) 1909: Selma Lagerloef (Sweden)

The Most Recent Nobel Literature Prize Winners

STOCKHOLM — The 15 most recent winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature were:

1996: Wislawa Szymborska (Poland) 1995: Seamus Heaney (Ireland) 1994: Kenzaburo Oe (Japan) 1993: Toni Morrisson (United States) 1992: Derek Walcott (St. Lucia) 1991: Nadine Gordimer (South Africa) 1990: Octavio Paz (Mexico) 1989: Camilo Jose Cela (Spain) 1988: Naguib Mahfouz (Egypt) 1987: Joseph Brodsky (United States, Russian-born) 1986: Wole Soyinka (Nigeria) 1985: Claude Simon (France) 1984: Jaroslav Seifert (Czechoslovakia) 1983: William Golding (Britain) 1982: Gabriel Garcia Marquez (Colombia)

(AP)

SPORTS SUMMARY

(Tehran Times Service)

HORSE RACING

PARIS: Favourite Helissio put up a champion's display at longchamp racecourse here to land the Arc De Triomphe.

His performance had the crowd on their feet as he trounced the field, made up of the best middle distance horses in Europe.

Helissio, trained by Ellie Lellouche and owned by Spanaird Enrique Sarasola, was superbly ridden by champion French Jockey Olivier Peslier who extended his lead in the final straight to beat 22/1 English Challenger Pilsudski by five lengths with Oscar Schindler, 17/1, from Ireland in third.

SOCCER

LONDON: Liverpool pair Robbie Fowler and Dominic Matteo will miss England's World Cup qualifying clash with Poland at Wembley on Wednesday after injury forced the youngsters to return to Merseyside for treatment.

Both missed training at Bisham Abbey over the weekend with Fowler again hit by an ankle problem which had previously ruled him out of international action.

Matteo, who had made the squad after turning in some commanding displays in the Liverpool backline this season, has had his hopes of a debut for his country shattered for the time being by a niggling knee injury.

Manager Glenn Hoddle will not call in replacements, believing he has adequate cover within the remaining 21 members of his squad.

LONDON: Manchester United's Andy Cole was set to be out till mid-december after fracturing both legs in a 3-0 reserve victory against Liverpool at Anfield.

Cole, whose form has been erratic since his move from Newcastle in January 1995, fractured his right fibula as well as a bone below his left knee in Saturday's game.

JOHANNESBURG: Sudan sacked their team and coach following a 3-0 home defeat by Zimbabwe in the African Nations Cup.

The minister responsible for sport, Brigadier Yousef Fattah, made the decision after watching his side's dismal group 1 debut Saturday night.

Fattah said Coach Mohamed Abdallah would be replaced by a Czech known only as mersalav^ who arrived in the East African countries weeks ago to run leading Club Al-Hilal.

TENNIS

LYON: Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov won the Lyon ATP Tournament here on Sunday at the expense of France's Arnaud Boetsch 7-5, 6-3 to continue success in France.

World number five Kafelnikov's 75 minute victory added another victory to his grand slam win at Roland Garros just four months ago.

Boetsch, ranked 23rd in the world, let slip a 5-4 first set lead with service to come as kafelnikov came under intense pressure.

But the Russian went on to win five straight games to win the set 7-5 and lead 2-0 in the second to stamp his authority on the contest.

SINGAPORE: American Qualifier Jonathan Stark upset world number two Michael Chang to win the men's singles crown at the 414,500-dollar Heineken Open here.

The 25-year-old stark, ranked 101st on the ATP tour, won 6-4, 6-4 in 72 minutes at the Singapore Indoor Stadium and prevented the top-seeded Chinese-American from winning his 11th title in Asia and 27th overall.

It was stark's second career singles title, the first was in 1993, and he pocketed 55,000 dollars for the victory.

LEIPZIG: Germany's Anke Huber won the 450,000 dollar WTA Tournament here to retain her title, beating Croatia's Iva Majoli 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 in the final.

Fourth-seeded Huber, who benefited from the semi-final withdrawal of world number one Steffi Graf through a knee injury, battled back superbly against her third-seeded opponent after losing the first set to wrap up her second tournament win of the season.

GOLF

BERLIN: Colin Montgomerie finished fourth in the German Masters behind winner Darren Clarke here to top the European Tour for the fourth year in succession.

Scot Montgomerie, who finished three shots behind Irishman Clarke when he shot 65 for a four-round aggregate of 267, 21 under par, collected 32,500 pounds and has now won 717,146.36 pounds this year in tour events.

He has only one more counting tournament, the Masters in Valderrama later this month, to come, but he said: "If I win there I will go over the million pounds mark.

MOTOR CYCLING RACE RIO DE JANEIRO: Australia's Michael Doohan already the 1996 World Champion before the start, won the 500cc Brazilian Grand Prix at the Jacarepagua Circuit here in the 14th and Penultimate Race of the season.



ALGER, Algeria (October 6): Algerian and Lvory Coast players fight for the ball in the African Nations Cup qualifying match in Algiers. Algeria won 4-1.

(AFP PHOTO)

Colts Become Last NFL Team to Fall

BUFFALO, New York — Steve Christie's 39-yard overtime field goal on Sunday gave Buffalo a 16-13 victory over the Indianapolis Colts, who became the last National Football League team to lose this season.

Christie had tied the game with a 37-yarder with 15 seconds left in regulation.

Kerry Collins, who started his second game in place of injured Jim Kelly, completed 23-of-44 passes for 309 yards, one touchdown and no interceptions as Buffalo moved into a tie with Indianapolis for the American Conference east lead.

Backup quarterbacks had varying fortunes in a driving rainstorm in Miami, where John Friesz made his first start of the season for Seattle and threw three long touchdown passes as the lowly Seahawks stunned the Miami Dolphins 22-15.

Friesz replaced slumping Rick Mirer at quarterback and was 18-of-32 for 301 yards.

The Dolphins, with Craig Erickson standing in for injured star Dan Marino, lost their second straight game after opening with three straight wins.

Miami held a 15-14 lead when Linebacker Dwight Hollier picked off Friesz with 2:43 to go. But the Dolphins were unable to get a first down and a punt bounced into the end zone, setting up the Seahawks at the 20.

Friesz threw two incompletions before he found Brian Blades streaking across the middle. Blades caught the pass as cornerback Calvin Jackson Dove to make a deflection. Blades turned it upfield down the left sideline, outracing Gene Atkins to the end zone.

Denver temporarily took possession of first place in the AFC west with a come-from-behind victory over San Diego.

John Elway threw for 323 yards and four touchdowns as the Broncos erased a 17-point deficit to win 28-17. they could be joined at the top of the AFC west on Monday, when Kansas City play Pittsburgh.

At the other end of the AFC, the New York Jets' nightmare continued as they lost 25 million-dollar quarterback Neil O'Donnell for four to six weeks in a 34-13 loss to Oakland — the Jets' fifth straight loss this season.

O'Donnell, who took Pittsburgh to the super bowl last season, suffered a separated shoulder.

In the National Conference, Minnesota and Green Bay both won to stay tied for the lead of the NFC central.

Warren Moon hooked up with Cris Carter for a pair of touchdowns and Minnesota forced six Carolina turnovers in a 14-12 victory over the Panthers. Moon completed 19 of 34 passes for 209 yards and moved ahead of Dan Fouts into third place on the all-time pass yardage list with 43,105 yards. Carter had seven catches to become the 14th player in the league to record 600 receptions.

Green Bay routed Chicago 37-6 for their fifth straight win over the Bears.

Scott Mitchell threw three touchdown passes and ran for another as Detroit beat Atlanta 28-24 — and kept the Falcons winless for the season.

San Francisco continued their dominance of the St. Louis rams with a 28-11 victory. Elvis Grbac, playing in place of injured quarterback steve young, threw three touchdown passes.

In other games, New England beat Baltimore 46-38 and New Orleans beat Jacksonville 17-13. Arizona, Dallas, New York Giants, Tamp Bay, Philadelphia and Washington had the week off.

(AFP)

Helissio Bracketed With Arc Greats

PARIS — Helissio's stunning success at Longchamp on Sunday gave first Prix D L'Arc De Triomphe victories to jockey Olivier Peslier, trainer Elie Lellouche and owner Enrique Sarasola.

On the face of it the massive five-length success recorded by Helissio puts him in the same league as Great Arc winners Sea-Bird and Ribot, although only time will tell.

Meanwhile, like the big Longchamp crowd, connections were still aglow over the Colt's success long after he flashed past the post although Lellouche, a former jockey, appeared calm.

"I don't show much," he said. "But there's a lot going on inside."

Lellouche, 44, had several good horses in the 1990's including Epervier Bleu and Pistolet Bleu, whom he trained for his main owner Daniel Wildenstein.

Sarasola, a successful businessman and chairman of the Madrid racecourse, has enjoyed previous success in France but Helissio is far and away the best horse he's owned.

In another sporting field, his son was a member of the Spanish Showjumping Team at both the 1992 and 1996 Olympics.

Peslier declared quite simply of his horse: +Helissio is the best I've ridden,+ and compared Sunday's race to something akin to a morning workout at chantilly.

The 22-year-old jockey's future looks exceedingly bright and comparisons have already been drawn with Frankie Dettori, his exuberant counterpart in Britain.

Peslier rode his first winner in 1989 and was leading apprentice two years later. He looks sure to win the French jockeys' title for the first time and has earned a big reputation on his trips to Britain where he has appointed a special agent to find him the best possible rides.

(Reuter)

Lopez Stops Campas to Keep WBO Welterweight Crown

LOS ANGELES — Jose Luis Lopez used a series of power punches to bloody and eventually stop fellow Mexican Luis Ramon 'Yory Boy' Campas in the fifth round Sunday to retain his World Boxing Organization Welterweight Title.

Lopez improved to 37-3-1 with 29 knockouts as he abused Campas, the top-ranked contender for the lightly-regarded wbo title. Lopez floored him in the second with a sharp left uppercut. Lopez was relentless, landing series of combinations throughout the fight before Campas failed to answer the bell for the sixth round, absorbing just his second loss in 66 pro fights.

"I had a good beginning to the fight as I was boxing the way I wanted," said Lopez. "He hits hard but I stood my ground. I don't have a lot of words to describe this victory."

Campas, who has 56 of his 64 wins by knockout, was bleeding heavily from his right eye during the fight. He appeared headed for a knock-out loss in the fifth when Lopez landed two solid hooks to the chin. but Campas held on and survived the round.

"He hit me good and hard in my right eye and I couldn't see that good after the fifth," Campas said. "My vision was a little blurry. I came in very prepared but he fought his fight and won."

Campas' other loss occurred in his first try for a major world title. He was stopped by current International Boxing Federation Welterweight Champion Felix Trinidad of Puerto Rico inside four rounds in September 1994.

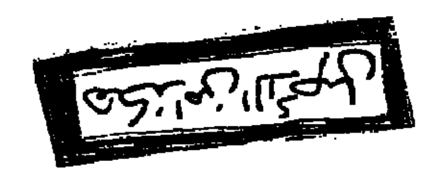
Lopez stunned Eamonn Loughran in Liverpool, England, in April to claim the wbo title in his first fight outside of Mexico.

(AFP)

1998 African Nations Cup Results

Mali beat Benin 2-1 in Cotonou on Sunday scorers: Scorers: Benin - Moussa Latoudji (38th minute).
Mali - Toure Bassala (54th), Brima Traore (78th).
Togo beat tanzania 2-1 in Lome.
Scorers: Togo - Salu Tadju (17th minute), Abalo Dosseh (57th) Tanzania - Lazaro Samieh (72nd).
Ghana beat Angola 2-1 in Accra on Sunday Scorers: Ghana - Felix Aboagye (7th), Kim Grant (30th), Angola - Antonio Alvesa (2nd minute)

Tunisia beat Sierra Leone 2-0 in Tunis on Sunday.
Scorers: Sami Trabelsi (29th minute), Skander Soyah (69th minute).
Guinea beat Central Africa (3-2) in Bangui on Sunday
Scorers: Guinea - Momo Wadder Souma (27th and 79th minute), Mousa Keita (85th), Central Africa - Georges Matondo (30th), Alain Azo (48th, penalty).
Zambia beat Mozambique 1-0 in Johannesburg on Sunday.
Scorer: Kenneth Malitoli (4th min).
Zaire and Liberia draw 0-0 in Kinshasa on Sunday.
Gabon and Cameroon draw 0-0 in Libreville on Sunday.
Senegal beat Ethiopia 2-1 in Addis Ababa on Sunday.
Scorers: Senegal - Hanti Ibrahim (17th min), Taifa Al-Assne (36th), Ethiopia - Elias Juhar (3rd).
Malawi beat Mauritius 2-1 in Belle Vue on Sunday.
Scorers: Malawi - Bob Mpinganjira (29th min), France Jonas (90th own goal), Mauritius - Robert Rateau (75th).
Namibia beat Kenya (1-0) in Windhoek on Saturday. Scorer: Francis Orduor.
Zimbabwe Beat Sudan (3-0) in Khartoum on Saturday.
Scorers: Zimbabwe - Johny (27 th min), Sao (44th min, 50th min).



Speaker: Formation of Women's Supreme Council, a Necessity

TEHRAN — Majlis Speaker Ali-Akbar Nateq-Nouri said here on Monday that formation of the Women's Supreme Council presided over by the highest executive official was necessary for decision making and execution of laws concerning women's rights.

Hojjatoleslam Nateq-Nouri addressing a group of the Interior Ministry's officials added that an increase in the number of female Majlis deputies in the fifth term indicated the importance Islam attaches to women's status in the society. Iranian female members of Parliament are well-educated, efficient and active, he added.

The speaker said that among important steps taken by the Majlis to upgrade the social status of Iranian women was its recent decision to form a special commission on women and family affairs in the Majlis.

He added that lots of work has been done in the Islamic society of Iran for women, but the most important task was the removal of the allegations levelled against Islam under the pretext of defending women's rights.

The Majlis speaker said that banning women's participation in social activities and denying them access to education in the name of Islam by the Taleban in Afghanistan could be cited as examples of false allegations raised against Islam. (IRNA)

President Calls For Cooperation Between Iran, Turkey Border Guards

TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told the outgoing Turkish Ambassador to Iran Ahmet Mithat Balkan on Monday that there are enormous grounds for Iran-Turkey cooperation at bilateral, regional and international levels and therefore they should make optimum use of the existing capacities for this purpose.

President Rafsanjani said Iran attaches high importance to protection of security and tranquility on its border areas and does not allow any group to get involved in anti-Turkey activities from Iranian territory.

Rafsanjani recommended more cooperation between the two countries' border guards to safeguard common border.

Balkan said that his mission in Tehran has been the most fruitful part of his diplomatic career.

Balkan voiced willingness of Turkish officials to consolidate relations with Tehran especially in the wake of a visit to Tehran of Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan last month. (IRNA)

International Force in Al-Khalil Could Be Increased

GAZA CITY — Palestinians would accept a larger international force in the West Bank town of Al-Khalil in a bid to allow the long-overdue Israeli Army withdrawal from most of the city, a top official said Monday.

Palestinian International Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath said the September 1995 self-rule accords with Israel outlining the Al-Khalil pullout are "so detailed, there's no room for adjustments."

"But we can talk about the exact nature of the international force (in Al-Khalil). The number of soldiers of the temporary international presence in Hebron (TIPH) can easily be raised, from 200 to 1,000," he told a press conference.

The TIPH, currently made up of around 32 Norwegian soldiers who have conducted unarmed patrols since May, was provided for under the current accords to observe the planned Israeli pull-out in Al-Khalil.

Israel was to have withdrawn from 80 percent of the city last March, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has demanded alterations in the accord to provide more security for 450 Jewish settlers living among 120,000 Arabs in the city.

Shaath said there would be "no renegotiation of the agreement. We only discuss the procedures and modalities of its implementation."

The number of joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols in the city "can be increased easily," he said. (AFP)

25 Hamas Members Released

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority released 25 political prisoners belonging to the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, Palestinian security sources said Monday.

The Hamas members, who had been in prison for several months, were freed Sunday night, the sources said. Hamas sources confirmed the release.

Among those released were five out of 10 students from Bir Zeit University outside Ramallah, imprisoned since February, who the Palestinian Supreme Court had ordered freed last August.

The security sources said around 20 political prisoners remain in Ramallah prison, in the self-rule area north of Bait-ul-Moqaddas. (AFP)

Deputy Foreign Ministers of Caspian Sea Littoral States Meet

MOSCOW, — Deputy foreign ministers of the five Caspian Sea littoral states opened a four-day meeting in Moscow on Monday to discuss the views of their respective governments on the legal regime and joint exploitation of the Caspian Sea.

The meeting is expected to draw up the draft statement of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the littoral states due to be held in Ashkhabad, Turkmenistan, in November.

The deputy foreign ministers in the Moscow meeting will exchange views on the legal regime of the sea-bed, under sea-bed, shipping procedure and protection of environment of the world's largest inland water.

The participants are also expected to pave the way for adoption of a convention on the exploitation system of the sea.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American affairs Mahmoud Vaezi and Foreign Ministry's Director General for the Commonwealth of the Independent States (CIS) Ali Majedi have attended the meeting under way at the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation.

Iran, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Russia and Kazakhstan are the countries bordering the Caspian Sea. (IRNA)

Tehran-Muscat Relations

ABU DHABI — Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman said in a meeting with Iranian Ambassador to Muscat Siyavash Zargar-Ya'qoubi in Muscat on Sunday that his country was willing to consolidate and upgrade its historical ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran. (IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ISLAMIC...

and not only refuses to condemn it for its inhuman acts but is also supporting the group in the suppression of its opponents. The above fact exposes the hollowness of the U.S. propaganda and claims regarding upholding human rights, women's freedom and the issue of education, the Leader added.

Elsewhere in his address, the Leader viewed the Friday prayer leaders as the disseminators of sublime religious principles and beliefs throughout the country. Ayatollah Khamenei said that, today, the Iranian people are centering round the Islamic theologians and consult with them on the matters related to their temporal and spiritual life.

Describing the scientific knowledge and spiritualism as the two main buttresses of the Islamic theology, the grand ayatollah stated that Islam is a religion that both anticipates the needs of man in the material world and paves the way for his spiritual salvation.

Further in his address, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution underlined that, today, the great Iranian nation is under a popular Islamic government which has attracted and captured many hearts in all parts of the world.

Ayatollah Khamenei concluded by stressing that the enemies of Islam fear a revolution that has demonstrated its power and ability to run a great country, a revolution that is able to fulfil the needs and expectations of a great nation and dispel the doubts and worries of the young generation all over the world.

"The Islamic theology is attracting the attention of many youngsters in other countries, which is one of the many strengths of the Islamic Revolution frightening the enemies of Islam," the Leader pointed out.

ADVIR Not to Stand Against Groups

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Association for Defending the Values of the Islamic Revolution (ADVIR) does not intend to form a faction against other political factions in the country. Secretary General of the association, Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Reishahri, announced here Saturday.

Attending a question and answer session at the Tehran University, where members of the Islamic associations from different faculties were also present, he stressed that the association was formed to safeguard certain Islamic values.

He furthers stressed that the ADVIR maintains that the Islamic values should be safeguarded through cooperation among different political groups that believe in the Islamic system and its values.

The association maintains that sound political movements will be fruitful for the country, he said, adding ADVIR was initiated as its founders considered it a religious duty.

Asked to comment on the procedures of the Special Court for the Clerics, he said that the court is not biased against any body and its verdicts are issued in accordance with the religious rules and regulations.

The court was established pursuant to a decree by the Father of the Islamic Revolution, the Late Imam Khomeini, and follows up its activities in accordance to the guidelines of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, Reishahri said stressing that the court will function as long as it is necessary.

On the critical role of the press, he stated that the press can provide the best ground for exchange of different views and attitudes. They can introduce certain reforms through constructive criticism, he said, adding that criticism should aim at constructing something or reforming some aspects within a moral framework.

No publication is entitled to humiliate or scold the public and officials according to the press code, Hojjatoleslam Reishahri added.

Under the present circumstances we should provide the ground for and help committed persons to grow into efficient officials.

Asked to comment on "Hojjatiyeh Association", he said that the association has anti-revolutionary stands and even before the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, its members were out to prevent the Islamic Revolution.

Elaborating on the ADVIR's economic stands, Reishahri averred that the association believes neither in absolute centralization nor absolute privatization, rather it maintains that the development plans should be based on the Constitutional framework and the guidelines of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution.

Commenting on the Islamization of the universities, he stressed that Islamization should not be superficial it should be practical. Therefore, at first it is important to realize the real connotation of Islamization and then embark on the methods to implement it.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

DEPUTY...

Russia co-sponsors the Middle East peace process along with the United States, but was not invited to last week's Washington summit because the meeting was considered extraordinary and was convened rapidly.

Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov is due to visit the Middle East later this month in a bid to give fresh impetus to the peace process. (AFP)

Anti-Bhutto Meeting in Lahore

LAHORE, Pakistan — Thousands of people gathered Monday night at a meeting here supporting the ouster of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

The meeting was to be followed by a procession through city streets led by leaders of 14 political parties, including national opposition leader Nawaz Sharif.

Armed police were stationed on rooftops and large police contingents stood by, witnesses said.

The unusual security measures were taken because of fears of trouble during the anti-government march, local administration officials said.

The opposition parties, blaming Bhutto for massive corruption, economic mismanagement and crime, are demanding that President Farooq Ahmed Leghari dismiss her and call new elections.

The main Jamaat-i-Islami Party has threatened to hold a mass sit-in in front of the Parliament on October 24 if the president does not dissolve the National Assembly.

Bhutto's husband, Asif Ali Zardari, investment minister in her Cabinet, vowed in remarks carried by newspapers Monday that the opposition's efforts to topple the government would fail.

The five-year term of Bhutto, who returned to power in the 1993 general election, is due to end in 1998. (AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

EUROPE...

the peace process and I have reflected that concern to all the parties," Spring said.

"I'll be hopeful that the negotiations which started last evening in Erez can now show the world that they have the capacity to move on and to implement the actual accords signed" between the Israelis and Palestinians, he said.

Mussa welcomed a European role in the Middle East saying it was "an additional input that could help consolidate the Egyptian and American" efforts in the region.

"We are now waiting for the results of the (Erez) negotiations. Everything depends on the outcome of these negotiations," Mussa said.

Spring, whose country holds the European Union (EU) presidency, was dispatched by the EU to the Middle East to give European input to the vital Israeli-Palestinian talks which opened on Sunday at the Erez crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip.

Europe and the United States both have a "constructive" role to play in the Middle East, Spring told reporters after talks Monday in Gaza with Arafat.

He stressed that the EU wanted to work in a "partnership" with the United States in the region.

U.S. Secretary Warren Christopher has rejected any European role in the Erez negotiations, stressing that Europe should limit its activities to helping the Palestinians financially.

Mubarak on Sunday warned of disaster if Israel tried to renegotiate agreements which have already been struck with the Palestinians. (AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

HAMAS...

Zionist intelligence services is a free gift offered to (Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu," Hamas said.

Palestinians fought an Intifada against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip from 1987 until 1993 when the self-rule accords were signed. (AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

EDUCATION...

heavy responsibility in the country's cultural development.

Shariatmadari further emphasized the responsibility of society's intellectuals of assisting people, particularly the youth, to grow spiritually and morally.

Elaborating on the meaning of culture, Shariatmadari said that the various ways of upbringing, customs, traditions and the way society behaves constitute the elements of culture, adding that culture, in general, signifies the people's way of life and the way they interact with members of society.

He further added that some sociologists consider three main factors distinguishing a particular kind of culture—public, professional and innovative.

He also explained that some sociologists would consider culture as being made up of the skill and techniques, social mores, governing rules and regulations and system by which society is run.

He volunteered his own idea of culture, saying education is an essential and constructive factor in the cultural development of any society, and called for more attention on the country's schools, universities and other scientific centers.

Asked to comment on the country's cultural values, Shariatmadari averred that values which are espoused and encouraged by the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution are rooted in Islamic doctrine.

"The (positive) cultural values which are now enforced and observed throughout the country are among the achievements of the Islamic Revolution," he said.

In conclusion, Shariatmadari said the role of education in the country's cultural upliftment—the various kinds of training dedicated people receive in the educational centers of the country—aim to instill in them the ability to distinguish between truth and lie, good and evil and will definitely be a key measure in blocking negative cultural influences.

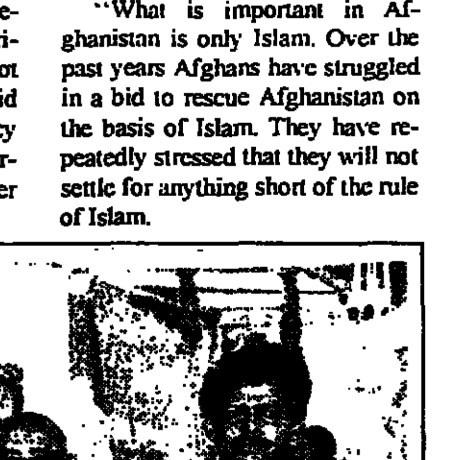
Pourahmad Praised by Indian Director, Ramesh Deo

By Sheida Naseri

KERMAN — Indian producer, actor and director, Ramesh Deo, here to attend the Twelfth International Film Festival for Children and Young Adults, praised Iranian director Kiumars Pourahmad.

In a message to Pourahmad, Ramesh Deo said, "I don't know you personally, but with your excellent work, I understand you and your feelings. You have directed the picture beautifully and artistically. Everything is expressed by the actors. The dubbing into English is fine, but even without the dubbing, one can understand the film. As an Indian, I am more attached to emotional films."

Ramesh Deo has produced over 6,400 films and directed 10 films. His films won awards in the 1996 Cairo International Film Festival. He has also received Indian awards for three films.



"Estranged Sisters" is a film about twin sisters who grew up apart from each other. At a party, the two meet and realize they look very much alike. Narges and Nasreen discover they are identical twins. One lives with the father; the other with the mother. Why have their parents kept this a secret? The twins decide to swap homes and find a way to reunite their parents.

Co-stars in the film are Khosrow Shakibaee and Afsaneh Baigan.

Formation of Iran-Bangladesh Friendship Group Discussed

DHAKA — Iran's Ambassador to Dhaka Mahmoud Bayat and Bangladeshi Parliament Speaker Homayoun Rashid Chudri here Sunday reviewed establishment of a parliamentary friendship group between the two countries.

Issues of mutual interest as well as agenda of the next inter-parliamentary conference of the Islamic countries which is to be held in Tehran October 22-23 were among topics discussed by the two officials. (IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 2)

BOROUJERDI....

those who will be tempted to fan it.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has always made an effort to defuse the crisis in the region primarily, politically and not militarily. Iran has repeatedly said that it was not partial of the policy of intervention, especially militarily, in the internal affairs of other states.

"As the result of Iran's mediation between groups in Afghanistan many Muslims' lives were saved in the absence of which the same war that went on between the Taleban and Rabbani's government would erupt and continue between all other groups in Afghanistan.

"Due to the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran fratricide among the government and the Islamic Party, Wahdat Party and the northern movement in that country halted. It was a significant success for Iran. It was only fluting that Afghanistan's other neighbors, too, would join Iran's cause.

"The Western media have wrongly claimed that Iran supports the Persian speaking peoples in Afghanistan to the disadvantage of Pashtou speaking communities. The Islamic Republic of Iran has had most friendly relations with Pashtou speaking communities in Afghanistan. Hekmatyar, Sayyaf, Mojaddadi, Mohammad Nabi, Gilani, Khak and many other leading members of Jihadi groups in Afghanistan are Pashtous and, have frequently visited Tehran and have had best relations with Iran.

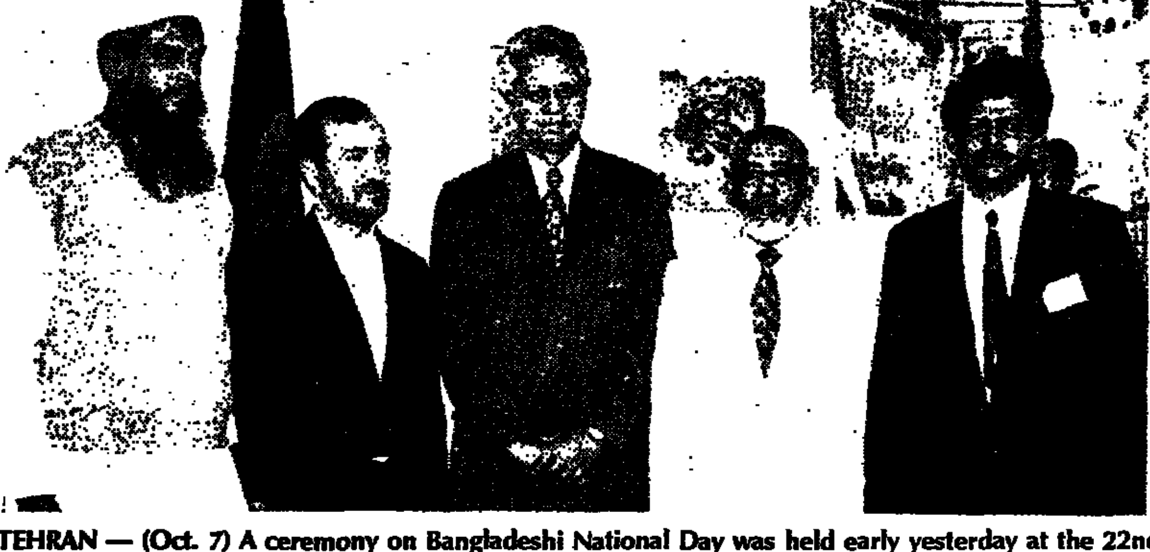
"As leading Iranian officials and especially the Leader of the Islamic Republic has frequently stressed Iran does not have an ethnic-oriented judgement about communities in that country. It would be to the disadvantage of the people of Afghanistan to bring up such topics.

"What is important in Afghanistan is only Islam. Over the past years Afghans have struggled in a bid to rescue Afghanistan on the basis of Islam. They have repeatedly stressed that they will not settle for anything short of the rule of Islam.

"Throughout the Jihad struggle in Afghanistan and after that the Islamic Republic of Iran has invariably supported all ethnic communities in Afghanistan without prejudice to any single group and without expecting any reward.

"Whether Afghanistan must have an Islamic type of government is the business of the Afghans to decide. Iran has frequently announced that the Islamic Republic would support any choice of the people of Afghanistan for political self-determination.

"In Afghanistan, a government will have sovereignty consistent with the richness of its components. The Islamic Republic of Iran maintains that Kabul must have a form of government comprised of all sectors of the Afghan society among them Persian speaking communities, Pashtou speaking peoples and other communities. It has to be elected by the people of Afghanistan without foreign interference." (IRNA)



TEHRAN — (Oct. 7) A ceremony on Bangladeshi National Day was held early yesterday at the 22nd Tehran International Trade Fair. Among the participants at the ceremony were secretary general for Supreme Council of Free Trade Zones Morteza Alviri (2nd L), Bangladesh Ambassador to Iran Mauzam Ali (C, in glasses) and M. Giash Uddin (2nd R) the commercial attache of Bangladesh Embassy.

Kish: Today's Free Zone, Tomorrow's Residential Area

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Kish Island is transforming into a residential zone, said Engineer Mohammad Reza Yazdanpanah, managing director of Kish Free Trade Organization at a press conference here yesterday.

Speaking to the reporters on the activities and achievements of the organization, the managing director said the number of personnel working for the organization in Tehran in 1993 were 172 employees, while the rate today, stands at 30. "The rest have preferred to live in Kish Island."

He said the island is permanent home to many experts, pavilion owners, government employees, and traders. More than 800 residential units are being built to attract still more immigrants to the island.

Furthermore, creation of a 200-unit administration tower will invite more government and private employees to the zone, to bolster immigrant population, Yazdanpanah said.

He said altogether 1356 contracts have been concluded (mostly with private sector) on residential, warehouse, trade, administration affairs, service, and tourism projects.

"Kish is rapidly changing face" and moving toward perfection, said the managing director.

Asked about the plans on the agenda of the organization, he said turning Kish into a residential and tourist zone, declining imports, and attracting investments in Kish are top on the agenda and receive utmost attention from the responsible authorities.

It should be noted that during the first half of the current year the rate of imports to the zone stood at $63 million and the number of passengers at 302,000, whereas the recorded ratio for 1992 was $384 million and the passengers were 242,000.

The only obstacle, he said, goes back to the number of flights to the zone, for which urgent and firm steps should be taken by decision-makers.

(Contd from Pg. 2)

RASOOLI...

most crucial social and political issue in the coming year, will the issue be debated by the prayer leaders in the course of their three-day gathering?

The above question was asked by the reporter of the Persian daily *Iran* of the head of the Friday prayer leaders' policy-making council, Hojjatoleslam Seyed Hashem Rasooli Mahallati, who is also chairing the gathering.

The hojjatoleslam responded by saying that if the prayer leaders discuss the issue of the next presidential election, they will do so in view of the necessity of the people's massive turnout in the election and not due to their support for a specific candidate. The answer was published in the yesterday's issue of the daily.

Rasooli Mahallati added, "During the last year's gathering, which was held on the eve of the parliamentary elections, the prayer leaders only underlined the need for people's active participation in the elections and did not favor any specific political group."

The Friday prayer leaders' policy-making council, which is tasked with receiving and handling people's requests for prayer leaders, has so far played a constructive role in the area of social activities and has managed to remove the lack of coordination among various government organizations in the country's several cities and villages through the efforts of the local Friday prayer leaders.

Following ascertaining the qualifications of a theologian, the council recommends him to the Leader. With the Leader's approval, he will be appointed as the Friday prayer leader to serve in some part of the country. He will serve as the Friday prayer leader in a period ranging from three to five years.

Concerning the measures taken by the council to hold the Friday congregational prayers yet more gloriously, Hojjatoleslam Rasooli Mahallati told the *Iran* reporter that some guidelines on improving the Friday prayer sermons have been offered to the prayer leaders. "In addition, tens of bulletins and pamphlets and some 20 reference books have been published by the council and used by the prayer leaders," he added.

The head of the policy-making council went on to say that council has put forward a proposal for creating the possibility of the prayer leaders' transfer from one city to another to prevent the monotony of the sermons, making them more diverse and attractive.

"It has also been recommended to the Friday prayer leaders that the length of sermons not exceed 40 minutes," the hojjatoleslam noted.

He concluded by calling on the people to convey their views to the council as before whether by telephone or in writing.

It is worth noting that the politico-religious Friday congregational prayers are held by the Muslims all over the world at noon. Friday prayers comprise two sermons and a special prayer.

(Contd from Pg. 2)

AZERI....

of mutual cooperation in the areas of post, transportation, fisheries, agriculture and animal husbandry.

He thanked the Iranian government and people for their assistance rendered to Azeri people, particularly to the people of Nakhichevan and called for continuation of the aid to remove Nakhichevani people's hardship.

In a separate meeting, Aliyev told Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri that upgrading of parliamentary ties between Tehran and Baku was of great importance and called for formation of friendship groups at the two countries' parliaments.

Aliyev expressing satisfaction over outcome of his talks with senior Iranian officials, expressed hope that bilateral ties would be upgraded to a favorable level in light of the execution of the reached agreements.

Referring to ratification of a bill by the Azeri Assembly calling for cooperation between Iran and Azerbaijan for implementation of Shakh Deniz project, Aliyev said that cooperation between the two countries had been legalized and there was no obstacle on the way of its implementation.

Hojjatoleslam Nateq Nouri said for his part that Iran-Azerbaijan Friendship Group would soon be formed at the Iranian Majlis and its members would be named in the near future.

The speaker called for holding of an inter-parliamentary session of the Caspian Sea littoral states.

Touching on Iran's efforts to settle the Karabakh crisis, Hojjatoleslam Nateq Nouri said the Islamic Republic of Iran believed in the territorial integrity of the independent states and he hoped for peaceful settlement of the Karabakh crisis through negotiations.

Nateq Nouri also welcomed Azerbaijan's proposal for cooperation and exchange of views between the Iranian and Azeri female members of parliaments. (IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 6)

"IT'S..........

mation act, that four administrations, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon, had enlisted not a few petty crooks, but the national political police, the FBI, to attack and undermine legal, legitimate dissent ...

The COINTELPRO scandal, as it was known, got zero importance. This, despite direct FBI involvement in the political assassination of two black leaders. Not only didn't it get the same importance, it apparently never existed, the way it was treated.

Q: It was totally blacked out?

A: Well, there might have been a few lines here and there. But it was of no interest and that demonstrates something very simple. The people in the media have no concerns for democracy or freedom or anything else. What they're concerned with is protecting power from people. When Fred Hampton, a black organizer, was murdered by the FBI and the Chicago police - that was okay, it wasn't an issue.

But Thomas Watson, the head of IBM ... you can't him bad names (as Nixon did on the tape: PS). So that and democracy collapses. When the media present Watergate as an instance of their adversarial, courageous character, you can hardly even laugh. Furthermore, they can't understand that once you tell them because they're so indoctrinated.

Q: You spent a day in the Bengal countryside. What did you think of village and *panchayat* set-up you saw in West Bengal?

A: Very interesting. I've seen plenty of rural development programs and this was quite striking, I thought. There was a lot of engagement and it's pretty obvious that the villagers have things under control. They seemed to answer the questions you asked them very easily and well.

Q: You think it's quite a democratic set-up at the village level?

A: As far as I can tell. I mean it certainly looked like very active participation with a lot of people knowing what's going on and eager to talk about it.

Q: Well, that's not how the media here see it.

A: No? That's their problem. But I can only tell you what I saw. *(Third World Network Features)*

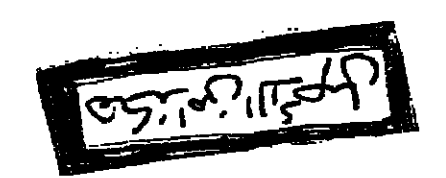
(Contd from Pg. 19)

UN ENVOY...

Brahimi follows hard on the heels of European Union envoy Aldo Ayello, who himself had followed U.S. government envoy Howard Wolpe.

All three envoys are due to meet former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, who is trying to mediate between the Tutsi-dominated government and the Hutu majority.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is also expected in the region to meet summit participants. (AFP)



Cow Takes Pool Plunge in Germany

DRESDEN, Germany —A wandering cow took a nocturnal plunge into a swimming pool at Bannewitz in eastern Germany at the weekend.

The cow severely damaged the pool, but survived the adventure unharmed, Dresden police said monday.

Firemen had to use special equipment to lift the cow out of the pool.

(AFP)

Tomcats Being Slaughtered for Their Skins

ILIGAN, Philippines —Hundreds of tomcats are being slaughtered for their skins in the central Philippines, a newspaper reported here Monday.

The Freeman Mindanao, said in its latest issue, that male cats were being purchased in the central island of Cebu and taken to a private slaughterhouse in the town of Bangkal twice a week.

The cats were slaughtered and flayed and the skins were then preserved for sale to foreign and local buyers.

(AFP)

Millions Vote in Key Indian State Election

LUCKNOW, India — Millions voted Monday in India's most populous state of Uttar Pradesh in the final phase of elections which could endanger the future of Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda.

Officials said some 55 percent of the 30 million eligible voters cast their ballots in the 10 hours of polling, which started at 7:00 a.m. (0130 GMT), to elect 124 members to the 425-seat assembly in the northern state.

A total of 1,363 candidates took part Monday, with a third of Uttar Pradesh's 100 million electorate eligible to vote. The rest of the state went to the polls on September 30 and October 3.

An election commission official in this state capital, 400 kilometers (250 miles) east of New Delhi, said there was little violence.

"Police had to open fire to chase away clashing supporters from two political parties in Ghazipur district but nobody was injured," he said.

"Earlier four people were injured in a freak accident in Ghazipur when the rifle of a policeman went off accidentally," he added.

The staggered ballot is considered crucial for Deve Gowda's ruling centre-left United Front Coalition, which took power in New Delhi June 1 after general elections left a hung Parliament.

The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party) is the front-runner in Uttar Pradesh. A BJP victory could put pressure on Deve Gowda to quit and go for fresh elections.

It could also undermine the alliance between the prime minister and the Congress (I) Party. Deve Gowda is pitted against the Congress in Uttar Pradesh although the latter props up his government in New Delhi.

This has already led to tensions between Deve Gowda and the new Congress president, Sitaram Kesri.

Kesri, who succeeded former Premier P.V. Narasimha Rao last month as the Congress chief, warned last week that his 111-year-old party could topple Deve Gowda over the Uttar Prdesh outcome.

On Sunday, Kesri asked Deve Gowda not to try splitting the Congress.

The counting of the millions of votes cast in the sprawling state will begin Wednesday. (AFP)

Appeals Trial Opens for Two Former S. Korean Presidents

SEOUL — Former South Korean President Chun Doo-Hwan took his appeal to court Monday, seeking to overturn the death sentence handed down by a district court.

Chun appeared at the Seoul district appeals court, along with his jailed successor Roh Tae-Woo, and 14 former generals convicted of helping the two ex-presidents in a 1979 coup and the 1980 massacre of civilians in the southern city of Kwangju.

Chun, 65, was sentenced to death in August for masterminding the two bloody incidents and for milking millions from businesses, while Roh, 64, received a sentence of 22 and half years in prison.

Chun's lawyers described the district court trial, marred by boycotts and protests, as "unfair and hasty," arguing the appeals court should specify how Chun was involved in the 1980 Kwangju massacre of more than 200 civilian protestors.

Chun and Roh have denied direct involvement in the massacre. (AFP)

Kuwaitis Vote for New Parliament



KUWAIT CITY, Kuwait (October 5): Kuwaiti supporters of tribal candidate Mubarak al-Khrainej eat camel meat in Kuwait City. Roasted camel meat was lavished on potential voters and search lights criss-crossed the capital's night sky as candidates began their last campaign push ahead of Kuwait's parliamentary polls October 7. Some 230 Islamist, liberal, tribal and other candidates are competing for a place in the 50-seat National Assembly, the only elected legislative body in a Persian Gulf Arab state.

(AFP PHOTO)

KUWAIT CITY — Kuwaitis started voting on Monday for a new 50-seat Parliament, chosing from 230 Islamic, tribal, liberal, and other candidates for the Persian Gulf's only elected assembly.

Polling stations opened at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) and will close at 8 p.m. (1500 GMT) in the evening, an Interior Ministry official said.

Only Kuwaiti men over the age of 21 years are allowed to vote for the National Assembly, or Parliament, the only elected assembly among the six Persian Gulf Arab states and the only body to have legislative powers.

There are about 107,000 registered voters, accounting for just 15 percent of the population of 700,000 Kuwaiti citizens. Excluded from voting are women, members of the armed forces and naturalized Kuwaitis.

Some 230 candidates are competing in 25 constituencies throughout the country. The candidates were campaigning late into Sunday night, erecting posters and campaign tents outside schools where voting is taking place.

Constituencies vary widely in size, the smallest with just over 1,100 voters while the largest has just under 10,000 voters, but each has two seats in Parliament.

Islamic MPs were the dominant opposition bloc in the Parliament elected in 1992 and they are hoping to maintain their position against pro-government candidates.

The liberal opposition was vocal, but had fewer MPs than the Islamic group in the last assembly which was elected after the seven-month Iraqi occupation of Kuwait between August 1990 and February 1991. (AFP)

Digging Ends at Vukovar Mass Grave, 200 Bodies Found



Bosnia-Herzegovina: Investigators of ICTY, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, carry human remains in a bodybag collected at a mass-grave site outside village of Cerska.

(Libraray Picture)

ZAGREB — With bad weather closing in, international experts have wrapped up digging at a mass grave thought to contain the bodies of Vukovar Hospital patients killed by the Serbs in 1991, the UN said Monday.

"They pulled out 200 bodies from the ground," UN spokesman Douglas Coffman told AFP by telephone from the eastern Croatian town.

"All of them have been sent to Zagreb where they begin the next phase of the investigation, which is the autopsy phase," he said.

Coffman said the news had been announced at a press conference in Vukovar given by one of the experts, Vladimir Dzuro.

The grave, in a remote spot near the hamlet of Ovcara, was thought to contain the bodies of hospital patients and staff, killed when Vukovar fell to the Serbs in November 1991 at the end of a bitter three-month siege.

One of the experts, William Haglund, who works for the Boston-based organization Physicians for Human Rights, said Wednesday that clothing and casts for broken limbs found in the grave would seem to indicate that the bodies were those of patients.

He said that it had been agreed with the Croatian authorities that Yugoslav experts would be present at the autopsies.

Physicians for Human Rights was commissioned to work on the grave by the UN War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague, which has indicted three officers of the former Yugoslav Army over the suspected killings. (AFP)

At Least 28 Killed in Mekong Flooding

HANOI — The death toll from flooding in the Mekong Delta in southern Vietnam has risen to at least 28, most of them children, since the start of October, press reports said Monday.

At least eighteen children were among the dead in An Giang, Dong Thap and Long An provinces where floodwaters inundated nearly 200,000 houses, the Saigon Giaiphong reported.

More than 12,000 people had to leave their homes and many more are likely to be evacuated as the Mekong River continues to rise.

Around 10,000 hectares (25,000 acres) of paddy fields were lost or badly damaged. Total losses are estimated at 40 billion dong (nearly four million dollars), the newspaper said.

Vietnam has been seriously hit by typhoons, storms and floods in recent months. A Red Cross spokesman said Saturday that at least 500 people had been killed in storms and floods in the last two months and losses have been estimated at $300 million. (AFP)

Rao Bail Appeal in Forgery Case Put Off

NEW DELHI — An Indian court on Monday put off by a day former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's appeal for bail in a 1989 forgery case.

Delhi High Court Judge S.K. Mahajan gave the ruling after nearly two hours of arguments in a packed chamber, with the prosecution strongly opposing Rao's application.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) said Rao, India's prime minister for five years until May, might try to influence witnesses if given bail.

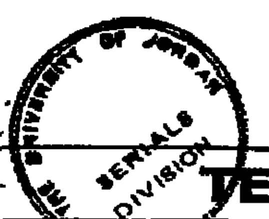
Rao's counsel R.K. Anand pleaded that chief metropolitan magistrate Prem Kumar, who on Friday issued an arrest warrant against Rao, was biased and that the former premier had not committed any forgery.

Judge Mahajan temporarily staved off Rao's arrest ordered by Kumar and said the case would be decided on Monday.

Rao, 75, has been accused of being behind a forgery of documents seven years ago when he was the foreign minister. The documents were intended to defame then-opposition leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

The documents showed that Singh, who became prime minister in 1989, and his son Ajeya flouted India's foreign exchange rules to open a bank account in the Caribbean island of St. Kitts.

Rao has also been named a co-accused by the CBI in a 100,000-dollar fraud. (AFP)



TEHRAN TIMES

OCTOBER 8, 1996

China Warns U.S. to Revoke Textile Quota Charges

BEIJING — A senior Chinese trade official said on Sunday a recent U.S. decision to slap charges on China's textiles quotas was unreasonable and should be revoked and warned of possible trade retaliation.

If the United States insisted on continuing the trade friction, the Chinese side would have no option but to reciprocate. Xinhua News Agency quoted Li Dongsheng, Director of the Trade Administration Department of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, as saying.

The U.S. trade representative office announced last month the decision to charge China's textiles quotas for 1996 in 13 categories and to triple charge in five categories, Xinhua said.

The decision was made without full consultations with the Chinese side and without providing clear evidence, as stipulated in the Sino-U.S. Textiles Agreement, Li said, attributing the decision to 'political manoeuvring in a presidential election year'.

"China hopes the U.S. side will revoke its decision, in the spirit of developing Sino-U.S. trade ties," Li said.

"Trade friction does nobody any good, but harms the interests of both sides," he said. "As long as the U.S. side has the sincerity to settle disputes, China is willing to once again hold consultations, in light of the spirit of the bilateral textiles agreement, and work for a satisfactory settlement."

(REUTER)

Saudi Arabia Mineral Reserve at &15.1 Billion

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia's estimated mineral reserves of gold, copper, phosphate and manganese have reached more than 15.1 billion tons, the general directorate of mineral resources said Sunday.

More than 800 sites containing gold have been located in Saudi Arabia and the country's unprocessed gold reserves exceed 17.2 million tons, the directorate said in a report.

The country's most important gold mine is in Mahd Adahab, 280 kilometers (175 miles) northeast of the Red Sea port city of Jiddah, which started production in 1988, the report said.

Mahd Adahab has 1.1 million tons of gold ore with an average 27 grams of gold and 73 grams of silver extracted from each ton.

(AP)

Palestinian Trade Exchange Triple Despite Border Restriction

AMMAN, Jordan — Despite Israeli border restrictions, trade with the Palestinian Self-Rule areas is expected to triple this year.

A report by the Jordanian Businessmen's Association released Sunday said the trade volume would reach dlrs 50 million, compared with dlrs 16.5 million in 1995.

"If Israeli security measures at the borders are removed, the trade volume could exceed this amount," the 20-page report said.

In 1994, Jordan and the Palestinians signed a broad agreement that allowed for close cooperation with the West Bank, which Jordan once ruled.

But the Kingdom and the Palestinians have been complaining of Israeli bureaucratic procedures, long border delays and restriction on the number and loads of trucks carrying goods between the two banks of the Jordan River.

(AP)

Taiwan's Trade Surplus Surges 155 Percent

TAIPEI — Taiwan's trade surplus in the first nine months of 1996 soared 155.2 percent from a year ago to 10.17 billion U.S. dollars, the finance ministry said Monday.

Exports advanced 4.5 percent year-on-year from January to September to 85.62 billion dollars, while imports declined 3.2 percent to 75.45 billion dollars, the ministry said.

The trade gap between Taiwan and its largest trading partner, the United States, increased 35.1 percent to 5.02 billion dollars in favor of the export-geared island during the same period, it said.

The trade surplus with Hong Kong — the main trans-shipment port for commerce with China — rose 0.6 percent to 17.96 billion dollars in the January-September period, it added.

Taiwan's trade deficit with its leading supplier, Japan, fell 22.9 percent to 10.23 billion dollars for the nine months, the ministry said.

It said exports in September rallied 12.9 percent year-on-year to 9.84 billion dollars due to increasing overseas demand for electronics, information, and communications products, while imports fell 4.1 percent to 7.72 billion dollars.

Industrial products accounted for 96.5 percent of Taiwan's total exports last month, while agricultural and industrial raw materials took a 71.8-percent share of overall imports.

(AFP)

S. Korea Suspends Economic Ties with North: Paper

SEOUL — South Korea has suspended business ties with North Korea following Pyongyang's threat to retaliate for the deaths of more than 20 of its soldiers who came ashore from a submarine last month, local media reported on Sunday.

The Dong-A Ilbo newspaper said Seoul would freeze all economic cooperation with the north until bilateral ties improved.

Dong-A Ilbo quoted the unification ministry as saying it would indefinitely delay examining applications by 14 Seoul companies to conduct business in North Korea, including one by leading electronics group LG Electronics Co Ltd.

Government officials were not immediately available to confirm the report.

The ministry would also prohibit a visit by officials from the south state-run Korea Investment and Trade (KOTRA) body and the Korea Land Development Corp recently promoted construction in the north of an industrial complex for South Korean firms.

Officials from Daewoo Corp, a unit of the Daewoo Group, would not be allowed to return to the north after a recent visit across the border to help complete a plant in the port city of Nampoh west of Pyongyang.

Relations between Pyongyang and Seoul have deteriorated since mid-September when a North Korean submarine was found grounded on rocks in the south.

Twenty-two of the 26 North Korean soldiers who landed from the submarine on an east coast beach have been killed by South Korean troops or found dead, while one was captured and a hunt is on for the three others.

Tension between the two countries gathered momentum on Sunday after Norea Korea said it had captured a U.S. citizen as a spy working for South Korea.

On Saturday, Pyongyang delivered its most severe threat yet over the submarine incident, threatening 'merciless retaliation' against the south for deaths of its soldiers and saying 'blood should be paid for blood'.

Late on Saturday, Seoul's foreign ministry warned South Korean travellers to be aware of the possibility of North Korean terrorism, especially in China and Russia.

"We (the foreign ministry) recommended travel agencies refrain from sending travellers to the north-eastern provinces of China and the far eastern region of Russia," the ministry said in a statement.

The brutal murder of a South Korean diplomat in the Russian far east city of Vladivostok last Tuesday sparked fears that the north had begun to make good on recent threats to retaliate over the submarine incident.

Pyongyang has denied involvement in the murder.

A North Korean was convicted in China in September for kidnapping a South Korean pastor travelling in China last year.

The South Korean foreign ministry said it met on Saturday representatives from travel agencies and tourism-related organisations to help prepare security measures for South Korean travellers in foreign countries.

But the recent tension between North and South Korea, which remain technically at war after their 1950-53 conflict ended only with a truce treaty, has cut into business confidence and sent the local stock market into a tailspin on Friday.

(REUTER)

Kuwait Inks Oil Deal with Exxon Corp

KUWAIT — The state-owned Kuwait Oil Co. on Sunday signed a dlrs 1.5 million joint technical agreement with the U.S. oil giant Exxon Corp. to develop the Kraa Al-Marou oil field.

A KOC statement said the study would be conducted by a technical team from the two companies.

"This team will prepare the necessary development plans to start producing from this field as soon as possible," the statement said.

The study is expected to be completed in 1 1-2 years.

Kuwait had announced the discovery of Kraa Al-Marou in October 1995. The field in western Kuwait contains an estimated 350 million barrels of light, high-density crude.

(AP)

Toyota in Talks to Buy Stake in South African Car Maker

TOKYO – Japan's Toyota Motor Corp. said Monday it was in talks to take a stake in Toyota South Africa Manufacturing Ltd.

A Toyota spokeswoman said the auto maker was negotiating with South African investment company Johnnies Industrial Corp. Ltd. (JOHNNIC).

But the spokeswoman declined to disclose details, nor would she confirm a *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* report that Toyota was planning to buy a 21.4 percent stake in South Africa's largest auto maker.

"We plan to hold a news conference in South Africa on Tuesday on the matter," the spokeswoman said.

The *Nihon Keizai* said JOHNNIC was the second largest shareholder of Toyota South Africa, with a 27.8 percent stake.

Japanese news agency JIJI press said Toyota would effectively buy out JOHNNIC's stake for about 10 billion yen ($89.4 million), with the contract to be signed possibly this week.

Toyota South Africa, established in 1961 and owned entirely by local companies, is the holding company for Toyota Motor South Africa, the largest auto maker in that country with 25 percent of the market, the *Nihon Keizai* said.

It produced under licence about 95,000 passenger cars and commercial vehicles, such as Toyota's Corolla and Camry, in 1995, the business daily said.

With the equity acquisition, Toyota hopes to expand exports from South Africa to neighboring countries, it said.

(AFP)



Wider EMU Group Raises Doubts Over Credibility

DUBLIN — Unbridled optimism over the EU's chances of launching a common currency on time has gripped investors and politicians, masking a series of challenges ahead which could make for a bumpy ride.

Among the more difficult choices facing European Union leaders, who met here this weekend to discuss the future of Europe, is how to create a credible Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) that links as many nations as possible.

The wish to cast the net as widely as possible stems from the desire to avoid a split in the union along monetary fault lines.

Such an outcome could lead to more substantive political divisions and endanger the EU's larger goal of closer cooperation, integration and eventual enlargement to Central and Eastern Europe.

Analysts say the crux of the matter is whether the planned single currency, the euro, can achieve credibility among markets and investors, while at the same time maximising political harmony.

This debate has taken on greater urgency with countries like Italy, Spain and Portugal engaged in an all-out sprint to be among the first wave of single currency participants.

Speaking to Reuters financial television this weekend, Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Guterres said both Spain and Portugal would be ready for the single currency's launch, set for January 1, 1999.

"It is a very strong commitment of both governments, both countries, to join a single European currency at the beginning," he said.

Up to now, it has been widely assumed that monetary union would go ahead with core Europe — Germany, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Austria. Ireland and Finland are often seen as additions to this continental bloc.

Others would follow at a later date, depending on the speed of economic convergence.

For many economists a successful monetary union depends greatly on member economies achieving low inflation rates and currency stability. It is less clear how important budgetary rigour is in safeguarding a currency.

These latter requirements are where most governments have difficulty. A strict reading of the EU's Maastricht Treaty Provisions on monetary union is that governments must bring their deficits down to no more than three percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1997, the crucial year for deciding who qualifies.

On outstanding debt, the target ceiling for EMU entry of 60 percent of GDP is considered less binding — entry can be justified if a government can demonstrate that its debt ratio is heading towards that goal.

For a country like Belgim, whose debt level is well above 100 percent of output, most think the EU will let it slip by without much problem given its long record of currency stability and low inflation.

But that is where the problems begin. Others can argue that they too should be judged more leniently on the debt requirement. Portugal's Guterres, sensing an opening, told Reuters that if the EU wanted to include Belgium, it would have to look at the debt criterion 'as a tendency, not as a fixed level.'

"Whether you let countries like Italy and Spain join in 1999 depends very much on what they do with Belgium," says Charles Goodhart of the London School of Economics.

Yet if Belgium's inclusion flings open the door to more questionable candidates, analysts say the credibility of a common currency could be weakened at the start.

(REUTER)

Iraqi Currency Slides Despite Banks' Intervention

BAGHDAD — The dinar resumed its slide on Sunday against the U.S. dollar, bringing to an early end last week's successful intervention by state banks to prop up the Iraqi currency.

Iraq's two state-owned banks - Al-Rafidain and Al-Rashid - took the unusual step of selling dollars locally last week in a bid to stop the dinar from further plummeting.

Earlier last week, the dinar hit a low of 1,775 dinars to the dollar, compared to about 1,400 dinars in late September.

The banks' action, which is believed to have started last Wednesday or Thursday, earned the dinar what proved to be only a short-lived reprieve, bringing it up to 1,350 dinars to the dollar on Thursday and Friday.

But the value of the dinar, a key indicator of the political and economic mood in sanctions-hit Iraq, resumed its decline Sunday, slumping to around 1,540 to the dollar.

The two banks sought to match the rates offered by Baghdad's active money changers and offered clients dollars for 1,500 dinars apiece on Sunday.

The dinar hit an all-time low last December when it was trading at 3,000 dinars to the dollar.

Like previous ones, the latest slump in the dinar's value led to a steep rise in the price of basic food items, worsening the plight of Iraqis struggling to make ends meet under sanctions.

The dinar made a dramatic recovery last January when Iraq said it was prepared to negotiate an oil-for-food deal with the United Nations. The announcement helped the currency reach a rate of 400-450 dinars to the dollar.

The latest slump is believed to have been largely caused by the uncertainty over the oil-for-food deal which, when implemented, will ease off the suffering of most of Iraq's 20 million people.

An Oil-For-Food Deal was signed on May 20, allowing Iraq to sell dlrs 2 billion worth of oil to buy humanitarian supplies for an initial six-month period.

But the deal has been delayed several times and is now not expected to be implemented until later this year or early 1997.

The United Nations imposed crippling sanctions, including a ban on vital oil exports, on Iraq in 1990 after it invaded Kuwait



TEHRAN TIMES

"It's Like Opening Up India to Global Narco-Traffickers.."

***An authority of linguistics, prolific writer and theoretician on the media and its subversive tactics, Noam Chomsky was in India recently. P. Sainath interviewed him for** Humanscape.*

An editor wrote of Noam Chomsky that "in a saner world, his tireless efforts to promote justice would long since have won him the Nobel Peace Prize, but the committee keeps giving it to people like Henry Kissinger."

The foremost figure of 20th century linguistics, Noam Chomsky teaches at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Boston, where he became a full professor at 32. Equally at ease with political science, contemporary international relations, and activism, he draws full houses across the world — at meetings often fixed years in advance.

At least one American newspaper has called him "arguably the most important intellectual alive". Noam Chomsky is certainly the most cited living author among intellectuals.

Yet Chomsky does not suffer "intellectualism" gladly. At an interface with the media in Hyderabad, a participant began asking him a lengthy question about "post-modernism". Chomsky's response: "Post-modernism? I don't know what that means. But I suspect it's a scam thought up by intellectuals to keep themselves employed."

In India for just a week recently, he gave *Humanscape* this exclusive interview specifically on media issues. Excerpts:

Q: What does globalization of the media mean, generally, and what would it mean for the press and other media here, especially with the "opening up" of the skies?

A: For one thing, it means huge increases in advertising, especially of foreign commodities. Because their resources could overwhelm anything that India can have. It also means much narrower concentration of media sources... It will reflect the points of view of those who can amass the huge capital to run international media. Diversity and information will decline, media will get more and more advertiser-oriented.

Q: Is globalization an accurate world? Wouldn't "transnationalization" be more accurate?

A: I would call it the extension of transnational, corporate tyranny. These are tyrannical, totalitarian institutions: mega-corporations. They are huge command economies, run from the top, relatively unaccountable, and interlinked in various ways. Their first interest is profit — but much broader than that, it's to construct an audience of a particular type. One that is addicted to a certain life-style with artificial wants. An audience atomized, separated from one another, fragmented enough so that they don't enter the political arena and disturb the powerful. It's completely natural.

Quite a few newspaper-owning corporate houses here believe they're entering a partnership, and that the Indian press is mature enough to hold its own (presently, foreign ownership is not allowed in the press, but the situation could change).

That's a joke. If a local food place joins up with McDonald's, they may be very mature. But McDonald's has the resources to overwhelm them and has an interest in incorporating them within its system. That's more profitable and again helps create the kind of market that they need.

It's like opening up India to international narco-traffickers, claiming that people here are mature enough to resist. Well, sure they can resist. But when they start going after school children with free drugs, and the children get addicted, it doesn't matter how mature you are. TV and advertising are simply cultivated addictions, designed to control people in a particular way. In fact, in some ways more insidious. Narco-traffickers have to sell their stuff and addict you to it. Whereas this creates a particular kind of person.

Q: So the media's primary function is to sell?

A: Their primary function is selling audiences to advertisers. They don't make money from their subscriptions. CBS news doesn't make money when you turn on your television. They make money when an advertiser pays them. Now advisers pay for certain things. They're not going to pay for a discussion that encourages people to participate democratically and undermine corporate power.

Q: To sell life-styles, or values, or free market principles...

A: That's a fraud. They believe in free market principles for others, not for themselves. The major corporations in every society, in fact all the advanced sectors of business, rely very heavily on state subsidy and state intervention. They want to tell you to join the free market. They're not going to do it.

Q: How did you react to the liberalization debate here being conducted as if it were something new?

A: I was struck by this when reading the press here, the idea that somehow there's something new about neo-liberalism. There's nothing new about neo-liberalism. India has been subjected to neo-liberalism for 300 years — which is why it's India and not England or the United States. Which is why you broke away from Britain.

That the U.S. is not a fully market society (is known) .. but social security and similar interventions are the fringe of the system of state subsidy of private power. Discussing the U.S. as a market society without mentioning the Pentagon is like talking about the USSR and not mentioning the Politburo. The Pentagon is the massive core of the welfare state for the rich. It pours public funds under the guise of security into advanced industry in every large sector of the economy.

Q: How do the forms of media and thought control in the U.S. differ from, say, those of a totalitarian state?

A: A totalitarian state has a ministry of truth. They present quite publicly what the truth is. You have to adhere to that truth. If you don't, there are various penalties. Here, there's no ministry of truth. There's just a common consensus among extremely narrow sectors of power as to the way the world should be perceived and as to what kind of people there should be.



The McDonalds outlet in Green Park waiting to open

Q: Is there any real spectrum of opinion in the U.S. media?

A: On Saddam Hussein there was no spectrum. When he offered to withdraw from Kuwait, there was a media consensus that you don't say it. So that was suppressed. But there's a spectrum... Take the major issue in American politics today: balancing the budget. The media tell you Americans have voted for it. The Republicans want it done in seven years and the Democrats in seven and a half. That's your spectrum. The American people are against it by large majorities. But their opinion is not part of the spectrum.

Besides, the Pentagon budget is going up. The public opposes that by six to one, but that doesn't matter. There's the information system and the business community it represents. That makes up the spectrum. Within it there are certain differences.

Q: Some people are optimistic about the Internet throwing up certain possibilities...more democratic, less control. What do you believe will happen?

A: The state of the Internet right now is rather like the state of the electronic media back in the 1920s. In most countries, radio or a large part of it was handed over to the public interest. So you get the BBC or Canadian Broadcasting and that's as democratic as the society is. There was a struggle about that in the USA. Church groups, unions and others wanted a similar system. But they were overwhelmed by private power. And radio was mostly handed over to huge corporations.

Later, with television, there was no struggle at all. They just handed over to private power. Now, you've got the Internet. Like all the rest of modern technology, it's funded by the public. It comes out of the Pentagon and the National Science Foundation and so on. Just like computers and the rest of electronics. The public pays the cost, then you hand it over to private power.

Even with print, there was a large, independent press in both England and the USA earlier this century. In England, it was on the scale of the commercial press. They were gradually overwhelmed by corporate power. So with it wants? They'd like to turn it into a home shopping service and a way of addicting even more people, even more totally. Well, a lot of the public has different ideas. A struggle will take place and you can't predict the outcome.

Q: What about content? Like everywhere else, there's been a shift here in coverage patterns: entertainment, titillation, selective scandal busting. Where does that leave journalism of the sort that used to record contemporary reality or people's lives?

A: But with the U.S. media, in England and Europe, it's quite clear. News content is declining and narrowing and getting homogenized. So the European press now seems increasingly a pale copy of the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. It's just like with TV news stations. There's much less funding going into reporting altogether. It gets marginalised.

Now if you're the owner of Westinghouse, a mega-corporation, and a huge advertiser, that's what you want.

Q: Why do the educated classes line up quickest behind media-constructed reality? Say, in the liberalization debate in India?

A: That's very common. It's natural.

Q: Are you saying that the schools and colleges are part of this training?

A: Oh, surely. George Orwell pointed this out 50 years ago in *Animal Farm* which is, of course, a satire on the Soviet Union. There was a preface to it which was not published incidentally. It was on literary censorship in England in which he said look, I'm satirizing the Soviet Union, but look at England ...

And he talked about how unwanted ideas can be silenced without the need for an official ban. And he described the measures. He said one reason is that the press is owned by wealthy men who have every interest in having certain ideas expressed and not others. Another is the process of socialization that takes place through the educational system and particularly the elite educational system ... in which you just internalize certain values. Where, as he put it, you learn there are certain things that just won't do.

Q: So you can have a total disconnect between what millions of people are thinking and this discourse?

A: Yes. In a business-run society, if you're spending a couple of billion of dollars on public relations, you want to know how to package things so as to overcome public opposition .... Public attitudes are usually quite divorced from the spectrum of educated opinion, often wildly at variance.

Incidentally, over 80% of the American public think there's no functioning democracy, that government works for a few special interests. That's one reason people don't bother voting.

Q: Where does all this leave journalists in the mainstream who do not share the values of corporatised media? Are we wasting our time?

A: No. Not at all ... Take the USA. I'm very critical about the media but they're better than they were 30 years ago. Basically, the activism of the 60s led to considerable ferment, out of which came major changes in American culture ... There are always popular constituencies which relate to individual journalists and they're mutually supportive. They get information from them, give them information.

Q: So it's worth staging a kind of guerrilla action within such media systems?

A: It's always worth pushing any totalitarian system to its limits, obviously.

Q: There is this romanticized idea of the American media having brought the war in Vietnam to an end and exposed Watergate. How do you react to that kind of stuff?

A: The media were very hawkish on Vietnam. The media were always very pro-war ... By around 1970, about 70% of the population regarded the war as fundamentally wrong and immoral and a mistake and that remained steady in the polls till the early 90s when the latest ones were taken. And that point of view was virtually never expressed in the media. The most critical comment you could have in the media was, say, Anthony Lewis of the *New York Times*, who was kind of off the spectrum. By 1969, he decided that although the war had been started with the noblest of intentions, it was now costing the US too much. So now he wondered if we shouldn't get out of it.

Q: So it's a myth?

A: A total myth. In fact, if you're interested I've got hundreds of pages of documentation running through the media coverage. Case after case after case right through the war. In the early 1970s for example, when the media were supposed to have been adversarial, the US began bombing of Cambodia. It was the worst bombing of civilians in history. Hundreds of thousands were killed. Probably a million and a half refugees fled up to Pnom Penh. We know nothing about it. Because Sidney Schanberg and others who are called the consciences of the press, were sitting in Pnom Penh — and refused to walk across the street to interview a refugee. Those would have been the wrong stories.

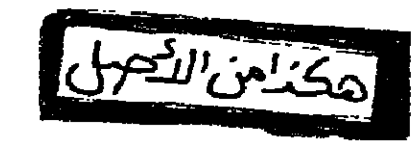
Q: And Watergate?

A: Watergate was a tea party. In fact, Watergate was almost a controlled experiment. The Nixon administration collected a bunch of petty crooks who entered the Democratic Party Headquarters for no known purpose and stole a couple of files, okay. Right at the same time, there were other things. There was an enemies list. Privately, Nixon called some people bad names - me, for example. I was on the enemies list. Nothing ever happened to anybody on the enemies list. That's Watergate.

The same time that Watergate was exposed, it came out that in the courts, in classified documents, under the freedom of infor-

(Contd on Pg. 23)

This interview is especially interesting in the light of the just announced Indian government decision to maintain the ban on the entry of foreign media firms into the country.



Nobel Prize Awarded for Studies of Immune System

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Peter C. Doherty, an Australian working in the United States, and Rolf M. Zinkernagel of Switzerland won the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine Monday for showing an important way that the body targets invading germs.

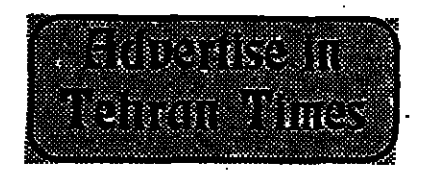
The Karolinska Institute, in awarding the prize, said the work laid the groundwork for design of improved vaccines and new therapies against cancer, multiple sclerosis and diabetes.

The two will share the 7.4 million kronor ($1.12-million) award, this year's prizes are the richest ever.

The scientists discovered how the disease-fighting immune system recognizes virus-infected cells. That opened the door to understanding how it recognizes germs and distinguishes them from the body's own cells, the Institute's Nobel Assembly said.

The winners used mice to study how the immune system could protect animals against infection from a meningitis virus.

The two laureates carried out their Nobel-winning research in the early 1970s at the John Curtin school of medical research in Canberra, Australia.



Doherty, 55, is now at the St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Zinkernagel, 52, Heads the Institute of Experimental Immunology in Zurich, Switzerland.

"A nobel prize is always a surprise," Zinkernagel told the Associated Press. He said he had not expected to win because a Nobel Prize was given about 25 years ago for similar work." I thought then that the subject had been covered," he said.

In Mice, Zinkernagel and Doherty discovered how the cells of the immune system recognize virus-infected cells for elimination. The infected cell must show signs of the virus, plus a chemical label that identifies the cell as belonging to the mouse.

The work "fundamentally changed our understanding of the development and normal function of the immune system," the Karolinska Institute said.

Apart from vaccines, the work has guided attempts to use the immune system to hunt down and destroy microscopic cancers that have escaped from tumors. It has also helped scientists as they design ways to suppress harmful immune system attacks on the body's own tissue, as seen in muloiple sclerosis and diabetes, the institute said.

"The main point of their research is in understanding how the cellular immune defense system can identify targets. It's still primarily applicable to animals and not yet to humans," said Lars Klareskog, a Karolinska researcher.

The Nobel Prizes are given to those whose work is thought to have benefited mankind most, in accordance with the will of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish industrialist who endowed the awards.

Last year's winners - Edward Lewis and Eric F. Wieschaus of the United States and Christiane Nuesslein-Volhard of Germany - were cited for work that began on fruit flies but developed into breakthroughs that improved the understanding of how birth defects occur.

The 1994 winners - Americans Alfred G. Gilman and Martin Rodbell - did extensive work with little-known but important substances called G-proteins. Disturbances in G-proteins can explain symptoms in hereditary metabolic problems, tumor diseases, alcoholism and even whooping cough.

The prize announcement Monday kicked off a week of awards. The Nobel Prize in economics will be announced Tuesday and the physics and chemistry awards on Wednesday. The final Nobel Prize, for peace, will be announced on Friday in Oslo, Norway.

The literature prize, announced Thursday, went to Polish Poet Wislawa Szymborska.

(AP)

Drink, Danube Plain Swells Slovenia Suicide Toll

LJUBLJANA — If you are a man, aged around 50, somewhat prone to hitting the bottle and live in the flat, featureless landscape of the Danube plain, you have a high risk of ending up as a suicide statistic, experts say.

In Slovenia, suicide has become one of the nation's major killers, exceeding the annual number of deaths in traffic accidents by 40 percent.

Psychologists and health officials agree that alcoholism is the one main factor leading to suicide rather than the increasing disparity between haves and have-nots since Slovenia ditched communism and opted for a free market economy.

But geography and the national character also play their part, they say.

Koroska in the north.

According to WHO, Slovenia is the third largest European consumer of alcohol with 13.75 liters per person each year, ranking behind Luxembourg and France.

Grad said a person most prone to suicide is likely to be male, aged about 50, experiencing personal or professional problems and who drinks excessively.

While such a description will vary little from suicide victims in many other countries, Grad believes there is a more troubling factor — the Slovenian national character.

And it is more troubling because it is more difficult to change.

"Slovenes are demanding and self-critical, with a strong desire to be the best," she said.

In Slovenia, suicide has become one of the nation's major killers, exceeding the annual number of deaths in traffic accidents by 40 percent.

The Slovenian government has become so concerned about the rising toll of suicides in the past few years that it has appointed a clinical psychologist as national coordinator for the prevention of suicides.

"Until we suppress alcoholism, we will not be able to reduce the number of suicides," the coordinator, Onja Tekavcic Grad, told Reuters.

According to World Health Organization (WHO) data for 1994, Slovenia has the sixth highest suicide rate in Europe, behind Lithuania, Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Hungary.

Grad said at least 30 to 40 percent of suicides in Slovenia were linked to alcoholism, with the highest figures in the winegrowing regions of Stajerska in the east, Dolenjska in the southeast and

"They demand a lot from their children, highlighting mistakes rather than successes. They are introverted and often turn their aggressiveness towards themselves."

Psychotherapist Borut Pogacnik said many suicides can only be explained by a "death instinct" or thanatos, the urge for self-destruction, which appears stronger in certain geographical regions.

"The level of suicides has traditionally been very high in the area of the Danube plain, including east Slovenia, Hungary, northeastern Croatia and northern Serbia," Pogacnik said.

While illness, old age and loneliness also play their part, some experts argue that an increasing social imbalance can add to demoralization and ultimately, despair.

"Significant social changes which make people feel that they cannot shape their own lives may be among the reasons that lead to suicide," said Doctor Jozica Selb from the Slovenian Institute for the Protection of Health.

Since Slovenia broke away from former Yugoslavia in 1991, its GDP per capita rose to $9,352 in 1995 from $6,133 in 1992 but unemployment is on the rise, reaching 13.3 percent in July.

Official figures show the number of suicides reaching 621 in 1994 from 554 in 1990. It dipped slightly to 564 in 1995, but still high in a country of only two million people.

Hanging is the most common method used, followed by poison or the gun.

The number of men who commit suicide is three times higher than the number of women, as experts say women are more likely to seek help when facing problems.

National coordinator Grad said Slovenia needed a nationwide program backed by hard cash to guide parents, teachers, doctors and the clergy on how to recognize a depressed individual and how to prevent that person turning to suicide.

"We have to start with the young generation as a suicidal pattern starts developing in youth," Grad said. "If we start with a prevention program now, the results will only be seen in about 10 years' time."

(Reuter)

Smoking Linked to Vision Loss

WASHINGTON — Smokers have a greater risk of losing their vision to a condition known as "Age-related Macular Degeneration," or AMD, according to two studies in this week's *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA).

One study, conducted on 31,843 women between the ages of 50 and 59 — all of them registered nurses — was part of a nurses health study in Boston, Massachusetts.

The women were followed for 12 years, with information on their smoking habits updated every two years.

Researchers found that the women who smoked 25 or more cigarettes a day were more than twice as likely to develop AMD, the leading cause of blindness in people aged 65 and older. A similar study conducted on men produced similar results.

"Results of this study provide prospective evidence that smoking increases the risk of developing AMD," the article said of the first study.

It found little reduction in risk of developing the disease even after smokers quit for 15 or more years. In the second study, on men, the researchers said there was an increased risk for past smokers but that it was not as great.

Both studies factored out other habits that could contribute to the disease, such as poor diet and the presence of cataracts, researchers said.

Thought

It is reported from Abu Abd Allah [Imam Sadiq], peace be with him, who said: The Apostle of Allah, may the peace and blessings of Allah be with him and with his progeny, said: The disciples said to Jesus, peace be with him: O spirit of Allah! With whom should keep company? He said: He the sight of whom reminds you of Allah, the speech of whom increases your knowledge and the works of whom make you desirous of the other world.

(Kafi, Vol. 1, P. 39)

PRAYER

Noon	11:52
Evening	17:59
Dawn (tomorrow)	4:33
Sunrise (tomorrow)	6:05

TODAY IN HISTORY

1757 - Charles X, King of France 1824-30, born. He was deposed by the July Revolution of 1830 after attempting to restore an absolute monarchy.

1831 - Ioannis Kapodistrias, President of Greece from 1827-31, was assassinated. He played a prominent role in the Greek struggle for independence.

1906 - Leopold Sedar Senghor, Senegalese poet, philosopher and statesman, born. President of Senegal 1960-80.

1908 - Jacques Tati, French film director, writer and producer, born. In a career spanning three decades, he made only six feature films, including "Monsieur Hulot's Holiday" and "Mon Oncle".

1934 - King Alexander of Yugoslavia and French Foreign Minister Louis Barthou were assassinated by Croatian terrorists in Marseilles.

1940 - John Lennon, British songwriter, musician and member of "The Beatles", born. He was shot dead by Mark Chapman in December 1980.

1958 - Pope Pius XII, head of the Roman Catholic church during world war two, died at the Castel Gandolfo, the Papal summer residence, aged 82.

1962 - Uganda became independent after nearly 70 years of British rule.

1963 - Over 2,000 people died when the Vaiont Dam overflowed and flooded the village of Longarone and three other villages in northeast Italy.

1967 - Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Argentinian-born guerrilla leader and revolutionary, was killed in Bolivia while leading a Cuban-sponsored guerrilla force.

1969 - Czechoslovakia's frontiers were closed to tens of thousands of citizens bound for the west on private visits as new government travel restrictions went into effect.

1970 - Cambodia declared itself the Khmer Republic.

1975 - Andrei Sakharov, Soviet dissident and human rights campaigner, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

1983 - Four key South Korean cabinet ministers, including Foreign Minister Lee Bum-Suk, were killed in a bomb blast in Rangoon.

1990 - Nelson Mandela returned to South Africa's notorious Robben Island and said "the emotions ran wild" when he met prisoners in the jail where he spent 20 years of his life.

HEALTH CAPSULES® by Michael A. Petti, M.D.

ARE LOW TAR, LOW NICOTINE CIGARETTES SAFER THAN REGULAR CIGARETTES?

YOU'D THINK THEY WOULD BE, BUT IN ACTUALITY THE ILL EFFECTS OF BOTH KINDS OF CIGARETTES ARE ABOUT THE SAME.

Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.

BIZARRO by Dan Piraro

WELL IF IT ISN'T MISTER BIGSHOT! BACK FROM THE BIG CITY!

I TOLD YOU I CAME FROM A SMALL TOWN.

FERD'NAND (R) by Henrik Rehr

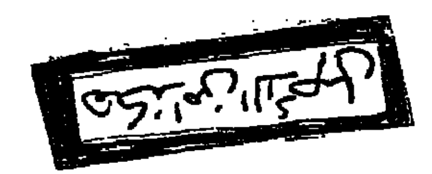
NANCY (R) by Guy & Brad Gilchrist

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOTBALL FOOTBALL

HEY! THIS ISN'T FOOTBALL. IT'S PEOPLE TALKING! PEOPLE LAUGHING! IT'S...

PRE-GAME FOOTBALL



Egyptian Bourse Gets Facelift to Meet Transaction Boom

CAIRO – The Egyptian bourse entered the computer age with French help this month amid a boom in transactions after years of manual operations.

"We have begun the implementation of a central depository system with Misr Bank International," the chairman of the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) Abdel Hamid Ibrahim said last week.

The system launched on October 1 will help speed up the processing of transactions which often takes several days and sometimes weeks, slowing down sales of shares.

The computerized system will enable the bourse to publish a daily price index as well as an index of best value shares.

The central depository is being set up with the help of the French firm Sicovam with a $960,000 grant from France and is a key step in the development of Egypt's bourse.

Foreign investors are currently responsible for about 30 percent of transactions on the Cairo bourse and "without a stable system of dealing in shares, no one will invest," Ibrahim said.

"We are going to adopt international regulation by which transactions are dealt with within three days and shares could be sold the day after they are purchased," he added.

The Cairo and Alexandria bourse fell into a deep sleep after the 1956 nationalization drive that gripped Egypt.

A 1992 law allowing the liberalization of capital markets and the government's decision to launch a privatization drive in the spring of 1996 helped bolster the bourse.

"In 1992 we had 17 stockbrokers, today we have 155 firms." Ibrahim said, adding that the volume of transactions from April to the end of September stood at 1.7 million transactions for a total value of 6.8 billion pounds ($2 billion), compared to 12,000 transactions for $560 million in 1993.

According to Ibrahim the total value of shares of public firms which went private represented 1.6 billion pounds ($470 million) in the past six months.

"Twenty-one firms have been privatized since April. Nineteen of them have been listed on the bourse and two of them offered only part of their shares on the bourse," he said.

"Most of the time it is the majority of the capital which is sold and not only 10 percent," he said.

But the government, nevertheless, imposes some limitations.

In strategic sectors such as the pharmaceutical industry, only 40 percent of the capital can be privatized.

Generally the state retains 25 percent of the capital for a shareholder of its choice to avoid having the shares fall into the hands of too many small investors.

Offers are almost always oversubscribed. "Two days ago we had 194,000 requests for one share," Ibrahim said.

Investors are attracted by quick profits, said Ibrahim, adding that 350 financial institutions, including 190 mutual funds, are traded on the market.

Purchases by foreign investors represented $1.3 billion' from April to September while CMA struck cooperation deals with the Kuwait and Beirut bourses.

The CMA's future projects include a cooperation deal which is being negotiated with the Seoul Stock Exchange and a U.S.-financed project to improve security and monitor transactions at the cma in cooperation with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

(AFP)

Europe of Many Visions Hacks Path to Monetary Union

WASHINGTON — The plans of European nations to irrevocably lock their currencies together in 1999 appears to have finally won credibility abroad, and Europe's allies are no longer asking if it will happen but what it will mean.

But inside Europe, there are as many different views as countries on what shape Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) should take as the continent moves towards a single currency.

"The view of the United States with regard to EMU can be analogized to living in an apartment with a couple next door having an argument." White House Economic Adviser Robert Kyle told a conference in Washington recently.

At the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, Europe appeared to be exactly like that.

It came away from a Group of Seven rich nations' meeting at the weekend riding high, its plans for EMU stealing much of the limelight, only to sully its image with a row between France and Italy over whether Rome would qualify in time.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said he left the G7 talks with the impression Europe was committed to EMU.

Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker said when he met Rubin a year ago the U.S. minister did not believe EMU would happen. "Now he believes it. The Americans are taking into consideration EMU will happen," he told Reuters.

But the latest French-Italian squabble highlighted the tough path ahead as Europe hacks its way to EMU on the basis of a treaty negotiated five years ago and not yet tested by a continent that has made and broken many treaties.

The Maastricht Treaty itself is open to interpretation, despite provisions meant to ensure EMU entrants have passed the test of sound monetary and fiscal policies to make the new Euro currency as stable as the mark.

"It is not only a legal treaty, it is not just economic. It is also part of a political vision about where our continent should go in the future." Luxembourg Treasury Director Yves Mersch told a conference here. "The treaty is a compromise between different visions."

One of those differences — highlighted by the French and Italians — is whether to push for a larger EMU with as many countries as possible or a smaller core of northern European states that would underpin the strength of the EURO.

Mediterranean countries — Italy, Spain and Portugal — are now going all out to meet the Maastricht criteria in 1997, the year on which decisions about who can join will be based.

But they may run up against a previously little-mentioned provision in the treaty that calls for the medium-term outlook to be taken into account in the decision.

"It is not a question of a final sprint to the finishing line in 1997. The countries that cross that finishing line have to be able to live together afterwards," French Finance Minister Jean Arthuis told a news conference.

"In its report (on which countries qualify) the European Commission should take into account the medium-term perspective of the member state." Belgian Finance Minister Philippe Maystadt told Reuters.

Finnish Finance Minister Sauli Niinisto stressed, however, that it would be hard to start adding new ways of assessing a country's eligibility. "The question is quite simple. If you fulfil all the criteria you are in," Niinisto told Reuters.

Nobody really knows how the treaty will be interpreted, and how strictly.

"Nobody until the ultimate moment will say there will not be strict interpretation of the criteria," Dutch Central Bank head Wim Duisenberg told the conference.

"What's the sense of a decision if the decision is to be taken by bookkeeper," Duisenberg, likely to be the first head of the future European Central Bank (ECB), added.

"It was never meant to be a technical decision," Juncker said. "It's a highly political choice."

The switch to Monetary Union will also pit those who want to use Monetary Union as the basis for further political integration against those, like the British, who fear the loss of sovereignty in a drift towards a federalized Europe.

"A lack of political union in Europe has been substituted by a clear-cut monetary framework. European Monetary Union will act as a catalyst for further political integration in Europe," Duisenberg said.

All these factors will have to be smoothed out, or stepped around, when EU leaders sit down to decide in early 1998 which countries qualify for the single currency.

At that same time, Europe will be holding elections in France and Germany, while still struggling with mass unemployment, negotiating enlargement to include countries in Eastern Europe, and discussing the expansion of NATO.

"It will be a highly explosive political climate." Danish Ambassador Knud-Erik Tygesen said.

(Reuter)

China Renews Protest Against U.S. Penalties for Textile Shipments

BEIJING — China issued a lengthy protest against a U.S. decision to charge Beijing $19 million for shipping textile products in violation of a 1994 accord.

A senior Trade Ministry official accused the United States of failing to conduct full investigations into the issue and of not providing clear evidence of China's wrongdoing, the state-run Xinhua news agency said.

The dispute over textile quotas was the latest in a series of trade tiffs that have helped to sour ties between the two countries.

The Xinhua report reiterated China's original complaint that the U.S. side had violated the agreement when it cut China's textile export quota.

In some cases, the textiles shipped to the United States did not originate in China, the report quoted Li Dongsheng, director of the Trade Administration Department of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, as saying.

Li said U.S. trade officials had failed to fully consult with their Chinese counterparts on the cases in question. In one case, he said, unscrupulous foreign businesses had affixed fraudulent labels to garments.

"The American side neither fully consulted with the Chinese side, nor provided clear evidence about the charging," he said.

In announcing the penalties last month, the United States had said its customs service had found China was attempting to circumvent textile export quotas by shipping more than 2 million garments to the United States through other countries.

China contended that the United States was cutting its export quota by 195,001 dozen items without "ample evidence" of shipment through third countries. It demanded more consultations on the issue and threatened retaliation if the U.S. penalties were not withdrawn.

"We hope the U.S. side will revoke its decision, in the spirit of developing Sino-U.S. trade ties. Trade friction does nobody any good, but harms the interests of both sides," Li was quoted as saying.

(AP)

Small Town Sets Global Sights on Burma

WASHINGTON — Disappointed by the legislative defeat of tough federal sanctions against Burma, a tiny suburb of the U.S. capital is taking matters into its own small, globally oriented hands.

Takoma Park, Maryland (population 17,000) — which had imposed sanctions against South Africa, declared itself a nuclear-free zone, and granted illegal aliens voting rights in the past — is expected this month to ban city contracts with firms that do business in Burma.

And while the provision enjoys broad support among residents of this white-collar suburb, it has prompted a small-scale replay of the debate over broad federal sanctions that nearly passed the U.S. Senate in July.

"We want to have an effect on multinationals, but we don't want to hurt our neighbor with a Texaco franchise," said Bruce Williams, a member of the City Council and sponsor of the legislation. "We'd like to get the franchises' support."

Williams said the provision, which aims to protest human rights abuses by the Burmese junta, has also prompted residents to question "why Burma?" When plenty of other governments — from sub-Saharan Africa to the Caribbean — commit similar abuses.

But a small group of Burmese-born residents, including students forced to flee the country after a violent military crackdown in 1988, weighed in with what could be decisive support for the measure.

Asked how Takoma Park came to add Burmese democracy to its list of left-leaning causes, Williams said, "This one came to us because we have Burmese students who were there, who had to leave the country to go to school here."

Conversely, Republican Senator Mitch McConnell attributed the recent failure of his sweeping anti-Burma sanctions to the small number of ethnic Burmese Americans, which community leaders estimate at several thousand.

A bigger bloc would have eased passage of the measure, he suggested. It was, after all, only when apartheid became a domestic civil rights issue for African-Americans — who make up 17 percent of the U.S. population — that the U.S. Congress passed sanctions against South Africa in the 1980s.

That could yet prove irrelevant, said Simon Billenness, a Boston-based investment analyst working to foment a growing anti-Burma student movement and exert shareholder pressure on companies to pull out of Burma.

"We don't need a movement as big as the South Africa campaign," said Billenness. "I see this issue appealing to young Asian-Americans across the board, anyway," though they trace their roots to other Asian countries, he said.

The Takoma Park City Council must conduct two readings of the legislation before it can become law, said Deputy City Clerk Tom Espinoza.

They are scheduled for October 14 and October 28, after which "if everything goes OK, it would become part of city law," he said, adding that the sanctions "do have broad support in the council and the city."

How many existing contracts would be affected is unclear, Williams said, predicting that the sanctions would make their biggest impact on how the town spends several thousand dollars annually on police radios.

The nonprofit, Washington-based Investor Responsibility Research Center in August listed 20 U.S. and 130 foreign companies as having employees or direct investment in Burma.

And that's enough to keep Takoma Park or any of the half-dozen U.S. cities and one state that have passed "selective purchasing" laws from signing any contracts with those firms.

(AFP)

India to Block Foreign Airlines From Domestic Market

NEW DELHI – India is to block foreign airlines bidding to get a foothold in the domestic market, newspapers said Monday.

Civil Aviation Minister C.M. Ibrahim was quoted as saying foreign firms hoping to forge alliances with Indian companies would be blocked. He said details of the government's policy would be announced next month.

M.Z.A. Baig, a director with the Tata Business Group which had been planning a $600-million tie-up with Singapore Airlines Ltd., responded by saying messages coming from the government appeared to be "contradictory".

He said here that Kuwait Airways and Gulf Air had already been allowed to pick up a 40 percent equity stake in India's Jet Airways before Ibrahim's apparent u-turn on Sunday.

Ibrahim, speaking in Bombay, had said: "Once the policy is announced next month, we will tell jet airways to cease the foreign investment."

He added that if the Tata group wanted to establish an airline "let them come on their own, not with Singapore Airlines", adding the government wanted to restore the reputations of Air India and Indian Airlines.

Baig argued, however: "There is a debate going on about the participation of foreign firms in domestic airspace. Some feel it is undesirable because of certain nationalistic issues.

"They argue that foreign airlines are also prohibited in other countries. This was certainly true some years ago but it is no longer true today."

Another source in the company said there would be "disappointment" if the announcement became government policy, but he hoped Ibrahim's speech had been "a political posture" that would not be transformed into legislation.

Many of India's fledgling private airlines, as well as Air India and Indian Airlines, had opposed the entry of Singapore Airlines.

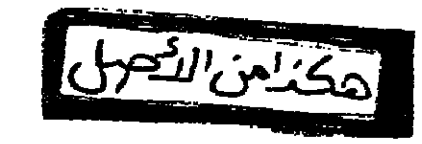
Economic reforms launched in 1991 saw nearly 20 domestic airlines launched in India under an "open skies" policy. Many, however, have run into financial difficulty.

Baig said their problems backed up Tata's argument that foreign muscle was essential to launch an airline in India.

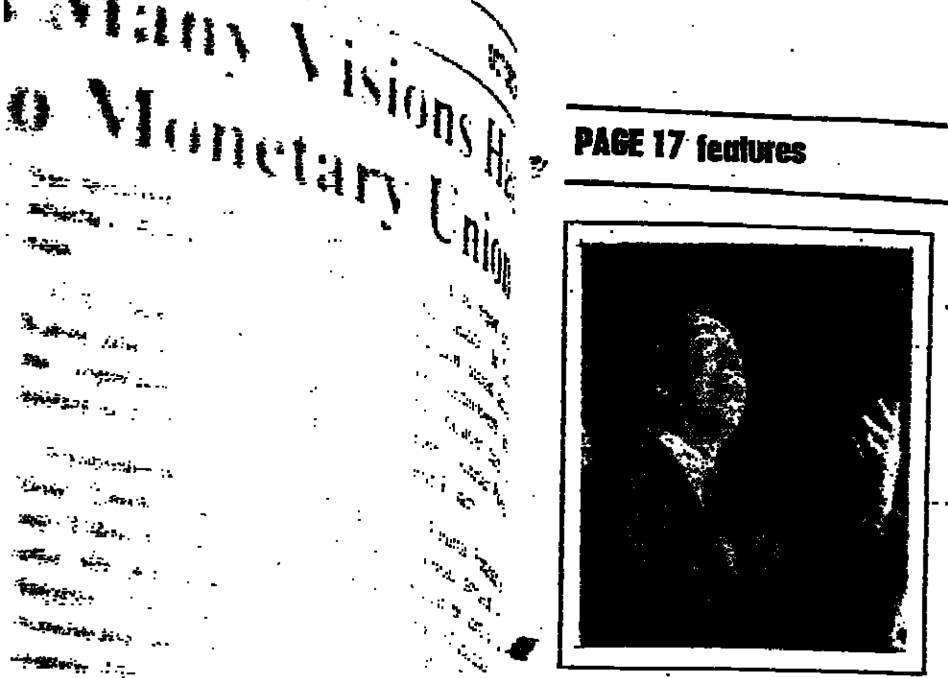
"In this game, you have to have a certain size and substance," he said.

"It's not just a case of buying a plane and flying it — you have to create a proper aviation company."

(AFP)



Dole Gives Strong Debate Performance -- but No Knockout Punch



DOLE

HARTFORD, Connecticut — Republican White House hopeful Bob Dole gave an unexpectedly strong performance in Sunday's first debate against President Bill Clinton according to both camps, but he failed to deliver any knockout punches.

"Senator Dole held his own in this debate," said White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, echoing the unanimous view among Clinton and Dole aides after the 90 minute one-on-one.

Neither side claimed a clear victory, but the Dole camp was quick to note that Dole had surpassed expectations.

"President Clinton was on the defensive almost all night and Senator Dole managed to stay on the offensive without being hard-edged," said Republican National Chairman Haley Barbour.

And Panetta credited Dole, who was often billed as too snarling and ill-at-ease to best the glib Clinton, with having the most one-liners.

"The one thing that Senator Dole is very good at is the use of humor," he said. "I think people saw a human side to Senator Dole and that worked very well."

Indeed, that was just what the Dole camp has been working on in their intensive coaching sessions since Thursday, and they were hailing their victory on that count.

"In their first serious look, voters saw Bob Dole comfortable, witty and warm, but they also saw that he was in command of the facts and right on the issues," said Barbour.

"The whole thing unfolded just as the Dole campaign could have hoped," he said.

Dole, 73, managed to disarm Clinton of the age issue by jesting that he would not make his health an issue in the campaign which has often focused on his age.

Comparing himself to the junk-food loving Clinton, Dole said: "My blood pressure's lower, and my weight, my cholesterol."

And when asked about Clinton's claim that Americans are better off than they were four years ago before he took office, Dole asserted that Iraqi leader "Saddam Hussein is probably better off than he was four years ago."

Dole has blamed Clinton's soft handling of Baghdad for forcing the U.S. military to carry out air strikes last month in southern Iraq.

But jokes aside, Dole's attacks failed to rattle Clinton, who kept up a constant refrain on the success of his economic policy, his strong suit and the one he led with in his opening statement.

And other than repeating his promise of a 15 percent tax cut, Dole did little to detail what he would do if he wins the November 5 election.

"He did not land any punches," Clinton's advisor George Stephanopolous said of Dole.

And that's what Dole needed to do to dent Clinton's double digit lead, according to political analyst Fred Yang.

"Dole came into this debate having to do more than Clinton," he said. "He needed a double or a triple and I guess he got a single ... just keeping it a draw is a very good for Clinton."

Yang said the first debate here in the northeastern state of Connecticut probably did not change any minds nor the direction of the campaign, particularly since there is such a low level of interest in a race many view as already sewn up.



CLINTON

A poll conducted by ABC-TV immediately following the debate showed 56 percent of those surveyed intended to vote for Clinton, and 41 percent supported Dole, with two percent for Reform Party candidate Ross Perot.

That reflects a slight shift toward Clinton, who in an ABC poll conducted before the debate was leading Dole 51 percent to 39 percent.

(AFP)

Britain's Troubled Tories Brace for Pre-Election Conference

LONDON — Britain's governing Conservatives, sorely divided over European Unity and shaken by a bribery scandal, opened their annual conference in Bournemouth on Monday in a distinctly troubled state.

It will be the last Tory conference before a general election due by next May, and with the Labour opposition keeping its lead in public opinion polls, Prime Minister John Major will have his hands full keeping his party together.

He is expected to take care not to deepen the rifts that already plague the Conservatives when he makes his keynote speech at the seaside resort.

He has already instructed Tory Party chairman Brian Mawhinney, one of his loyalists, to go over the speeches to be given by Tory ministers, to ensure that they all play the same political tune.

Coinciding with the start of the conference is a BBC interview in which prominent Tory veteran Lord McAlpine declares that he is bolting to the Referendum Party, led by Euroskeptic Sir Jimmy Goldsmith.

"I don't need any converting to the point of view of the Referendum Party," said McAlpine, a former Tory Party vice chairman who is close to former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"I need converting back to the Conservative Party — because they don't seem to be very conservative," he said.

Labour leader Tony Blair, who has been prepared to jettison his party's Socialist past to woo middle-class voters, enjoys the support of 57 percent of British votes, according to a Gallup poll for the daily *Telegraph Newspaper*.

Those intending to vote for the Conservatives — who have run Britain for 17 years — slipped to 24 percent, in the wake of Blair's generally well-received speech at last week's Labour conference in Blackpool.

Blair is pledging a new relationship with Europe and broad domestic reform in education, crime, taxes and health care.

Major dismissed the Labour threat, calling the opposition "a party that has lost its soul."

"They'd do anything or say anything to get to power," he said.

Major attempted Sunday to woo support from restless Euroskeptics within his party, a day after the informal summit of EU leaders in Dublin.

"We could have done without it," Major told BBC television, referring to the meeting in the Irish capital.

"In many ways, we were there because we were there because we were there," he said. "Having said that, there was some useful preparatory work done, some things useful did come out of it, but not a great deal."

But while sounding down on Europe, Major expressed firm support for his pro-European Finance Minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke, amid calls for his resignation from those who see him as a liability to reelection.

"He will stay chancellor," the prime minister said.

The British government had barely disguised its feeling that the EU mini-summit was unwelcomed, because of fears it could ignite Euroscepticism in the run-up to the Bournemouth conference.

In an apparent show of contempt, Major opted not to attend the summit's closing dinner at Dublin castle — returning home instead to another Major headache for the Conservatives.

British press reports meanwhile claimed that Major's government had attempted to stifle a parliamentary inquiry into the so-called "cash for questions" scandal involving one of its former ministers.

All of Britain's serious Sunday broadsheets — *The Independent on Sunday, Observer, Sunday Telegraph and Sunday Times* — quoted a government document to back up their reports.

The memorandum indicated that Conservative Whip David Willetts had discussed how to handle the case with the chairman of a parliamentary panel investigating allegations that Tory MP Neil Hamilton took cash payments from a lobbyist for asking questions in Parliament.

Hamilton, who resigned as trade and industry minister in 1994 after the allegations first surfaced in *The Guardian*, withdrew a libel writ against the newspaper last Monday just before his case was to be heard.

(AFP)

Savimbi Sits Tight as Angolan Peace Bogs Down

LUANDA — As international diplomats despair of seeing Angola achieve stability, two years after a peace deal between the government and its opponents, the man being blamed for the stalemate seems impervious to criticism.

Jonas Savimbi, head of the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), is sitting tight in the central city of Bailundo, refusing to come to Luanda to set the seal on peace with President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos after two decades of civil war.

His usual reason for not visiting the capital is fears for his personal security, even though he is officially entitled to no fewer than 200 bodyguards.

His four meetings with Dos Santos since the Lusaka peace accords of November 1994 have all taken place abroad, in Zambia, Gabon and Belgium.

The leaders of the countries of the Southern Africa Development Conference (SADC) invited Savimbi to their summit, held in Luanda at the beginning of this month specifically to discuss Angola.

Despite the tight security laid on for the heads of state, the UNITA chief would not be tempted, saying this time that "political conditions did not allow" him to attend.

The refusal annoyed conference chairman Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in particular.

The participants said Savimbi had missed a golden opportunity to advance the peace process and urged him to consider his future role.

Dos Santos meanwhile warned that Angola could slide back into war as UNITA dragged its feet on implementing the Lusaka accords, particularly in disbanding its forces and integrating some of them into a new national army.

Difficult negotiations are still in abeyance on setting up a provisional government of National Unity, which under Lusaka would have four ministers and seven deputy ministers from UNITA.

In August Savimbi refused to be vice-president pending national elections, and no decision has been reached on his future status.

In the former kingdom of Bailundo, symbol of resistance to Portuguese colonization, the UNITA leader plays host to all the foreign officials visiting Angola who want to see him.

But their pressure for progress seems to be having little effect.

The next distinguished visitor to Angola, on October 14, is U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is making his first tour of Africa.

He is scheduled to have talks here with Dos Santos, but under present circumstances a meeting with Savimbi is very doubtful.

Scandal-Tainted Congress Looks to 'Mr Clean' to Restore Its Image

NEW DELHI — India's Congress (I) Party, reeling under corruption scandals, has promoted former Finance Minister Manmohan Singh in an attempt to clean up its image, officials admitted.

Singh, the architect of the country's economic reforms in 1991 and highly respected for his integrity, was drafted into the Congress Working Committee (CWC), which runs the party, a party spokesman said.

"Manmohan Singh proved his efficiency both as the finance minister and as a star campaigner in the last elections," spokesman Ved Prakash said, before conceding the scandal-tainted party was keen to exploit Singh's reputation.

He said: "His image as a honest person carries a lot of weight among the people. He has been admitted into CWC keeping in mind his clean image. In the present scenario, it impresses everyone."

Congress President Sitaram Kesri, who took up the post from former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, said the 111-year-old party planned to launch an "offensive" against corruption.

"Manmohan Singh's appointment is a step in that direction," Kesri said.

Singh, a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, was picked for the finance portfolio by Rao after becoming prime minister in 1991. Singh was then widely seen as a political misfit.

But, acting under Rao's directions, he opened up the Indian economy to global competition with far-reaching free market reforms which ended nearly 40 years of semisocialist policies.

Singh was lauded both in India and abroad for carrying out the reforms despite protests from the opposition, particularly from Hindu nationalists and communists, as well as sections of domestic industry.

The Suave Singh, a Sikh, has a cross-party reputation for honesty. He is a member of the Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of Parliament, and a member of the Congress.

The former minister stunned the Congress last month by launching his first attack on Rao, who gave up the party presidentship on September 21 after he was named a co-accused in a 100,000-dollar fraud case.

"Ceasar's wife should be above suspicion," Singh said of Rao.

Rao is also facing arrest in a forgery case that threatens to end his political career.

Singh was courted by Congress candidates during campaigning for the general elections in April-May while Rao was shunned because of his tainted image.

(AFP)

Chronology of Pope's Health Problems

May 13, 1981: Pope struck in abdomen and hand in shooting attack by Turkish gunman in St. Peter's Square. Spends 20 days at Gemelli Polyclinic Hospital in Rome after surgery.

June 20, 1981: Pope hospitalized for infection linked to shooting injuries. Undergoes operation August 5 and discharged August 14.

July 15, 1992: Operation for benign tumor on colon. Leaves hospital July 28.

November 11, 1993: Dislocates right shoulder in fall down steps at Vatican audience. Undergoes operation and leaves hospital after overnight stay.

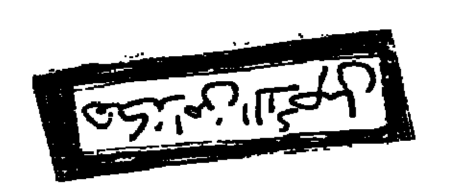
April 29, 1994: Taken to hospital after breaking leg in a fall. Undergoes hip replacement surgery. Discharged May 27.

December 25, 1995: Overcome by fever and nausea. Pope interrupts Christmas message in St. Peter's Square.

March 13, 1996: Pope cancels general audience because of what Vatican calls an intestinal ailment accompanied by fever.

August 15, 1996: Pope cancels mass after Vatican says he is stricken by a similar ailment. Vatican later announces John Paul to undergo surgery for an inflamed appendix on Tuesday.

(AP)



U.S. Center for Missing Children Casts a Long Arm



ARLINGTON, Virginia — Scores of missing children each year are located through the efforts of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, a record now gleaning worldwide attention in the light of events in Belgium.

"We are the eyes and ears of American parents," said Elizabeth Yore, director of the center located just outside Washington.

The innovative tactics the center employs to locate missing children have drawn interest in Europe.

The parents of Julie Lejeune, one of the victims of accused Belgian pedophile Marc Dutroux, met recently with center officials. Their aim: to create a center in Brussels based on the Missing Children Center here.

Kidnapped in June 1995 near Liege, the eight-year-old Lejeune was found buried last August in Dutroux's garden. Since then Louisa and Jean-Denis Lejeune have lived with the painful thought that the tragedy could have been avoided.

"Belgium is well behind" when it comes to missing children, said Jean-Denis Lejeune. "For 14 months we gave information to the police every day and they did nothing with it."

A day at the center only bolstered his opinion. "I am sure that here we would have gotten results," he said.

Created in 1984 by Congress and largely financed by the Justice Department, the NCMEC employs 80 people. Managing a giant database, the center gathers and publishes information on kidnapping, disappearances and runaway children taking place in U.S. territory — estimated at some 800,000 each year.

"To millions of Americans, the best-known symbol of our work is the dissemination of the missing children pictures," Yore said.

"Because law enforcement officers cannot do everything, we have been mailing every week millions of missing child photos to 61 million American homes.

"One in seven of the children featured has been recovered as a direct result of these advocacy cards," she added.

Thanks to the efforts of numerous businesses, the faces of these children are displayed in 400 firms as well as federal buildings and for the past few years on the Internet.

In 12 years of work, the center has had an impressive record.

Of some 50,000 missing children cases that the center has worked on directly with the police, 29,000 children have been located. Each day the center receives nearly 700 telephone calls, often to give information about a child's location.

The center has also made use of an advanced computer system that allows it to generate photos of missing children that artificially ages their features to produce an image of what they might look like with the passage of time since their disappearance.

Nearly 100 children have been located through this method, Yore said.

But she said this work would be in vain if the information were not relayed by the police to the public rapidly. "We have to work very quickly to get these kind of cases solved," Yore said.

"That's why we very often put different law enforcement services into competition to solve the cases more rapidly."

And when there is no progress, the center does not hesitate to go to the press to point a finger at whichever agency is in charge of the case.

"The media breathing in the neck of law enforcement officers is also a good way to get the cases solved," Yore said.

The growth of the center's experience has made it the premier clearing house for American police officials for information on pedophilia.

Jean-Denis Lejeune dreams of "a similar center, that would be wonderful."

"But it is also necessary that the police do their jobs. And that, that will be a very, very long job," he added.

(AFP)

Asian Nations Count Cost of UAE Expulsion of Illegal Workers

MANILA — Government officials in several Asian countries are counting the cost of the forced mass exodus of some 200,000 Asian expatriates from the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The oil-rich country ordered out all illegal migrants after blaming them for a surge in crime

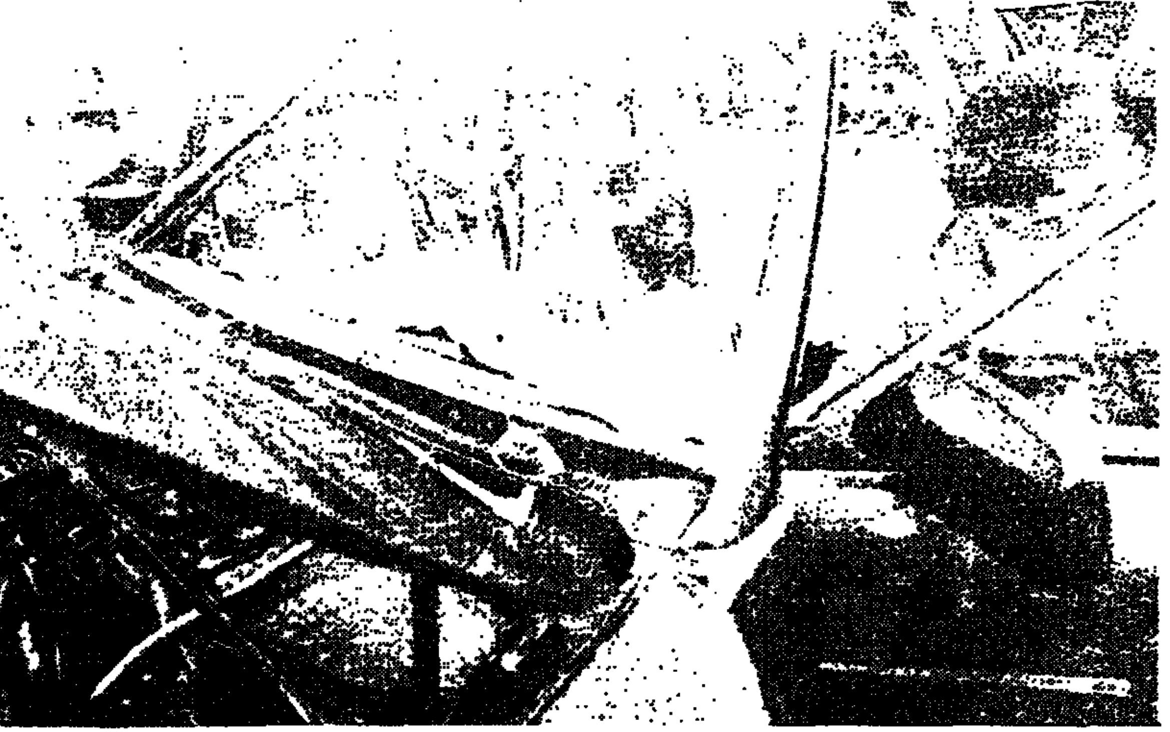
Some 132,000 fled before the original deadline of September 30. The deadline has now been extended to October 31 and a further 70,000 are expected to leave this month.

Most of the illegal workers are from India, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The Philippines has no program to assist returning migrants. Poe Gratela, the head of the Independent Manila Labor Monitor Migrante, told AFP after 6,600 Filipinos indicated they would be leaving before the first deadline.

Three out of four Filipinos working abroad are the sole breadwinners of their families, and "our experience shows that one month after they return home, they are broken," Gratela said.





He expected the displaced UAE workers to be immediately on the job hunt in other countries, an observation echoed by Foreign Department spokesman Alejandro Vincente.

"If I know our compatriots, they would even now be in the process of finding employment in other countries," Vincente said.

Philippine President Fidel Ramos has reiterated his call for a global conference on migration and development.

He said he decries the fact that "conditions exacerbating poverty and generating migration flows, like unemployment and environmental degradation, continue to blight the world in spite of the expansion of the global economy."

More than 6,000 Pakistanis are known to have returned from the UAE since the expulsion order was given, and the loss in remittances would be "a huge amount," a government minister said.

"We do anticipate a decrease in foreign exchange remittances, a huge amount, but we cannot assess it yet," said Ghulam Akbar Lasi, Pakistani state minister for labor, manpower and overseas Pakistanis.

"But the UAE needs foreign workers. This measure is to regularize foreigners. The workforce there will have to be replaced and many Pakistanis will go there again," he added.

Bangladesh officials have not yet put a figure on lost remittances from the 35,000 Bangladeshis to be deported from the UAE, but there are indications the figure could run into hundreds of millions of dollars.

In the year to June 30, Bangladesh earned nearly $1.22 billion in remittances from 181,000 expatriate workers, mostly living in the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

India's ambassador to the UAE, M.P.M. Menon, said most of the 44,000 Indians returning were from Kerala state, a key labor supplier to the UAE.

But he said the exodus would not hit Kerala's economy, saying those leaving were a fraction of the state's population of 30 million.

Officials in Colombo, rather than dwell on financial losses, saw future benefits from the UAE move, with about 6,500 Sri Lankan illegal migrants returning from the Persian Gulf state.

"We are not really affected by this clampdown," said Nissanka Wijeratne chairman of the Foreign Employment Bureau. "This could be a blessing in disguise."

"There had been overwhelming numbers of other Asians in the UAE. Now we may have a better chance of sending more of our workers to replace those being sent back."

Under the new law in the UAE, an illegal migrant can be jailed for three years and fined up to $8,200 dollars.

Boat owners taking illegal aliens into the country face up to 15 years in prison and fines of between 15,000 dirhams and 100,000 dirhams (4,100 - 27,000 dollars).

(AFP)

EU Leaders Face Year of Living Dangerously

DUBLIN — The European Union faces eight months of tough talking and hard bargaining to wrap up a new set of treaty reforms by the target date of mid-1997, reaffirmed by EU leaders at a weekend gathering in Dublin.

But the climax of those negotiations at the Amsterdam Summit next June will in fact just be the start of a year full of challenges and pitfalls for the bloc — truly a year of living dangerously.

In barely 12 months, the union will have to sell its new treaty to increasingly skeptical citizens, decide who is to join its single currency in 1999, launch negotiations with a dozen would-be members and begin a budget review that will determine who will pay and who will benefit from the new-look EU.

Toss in parliamentary elections in the three biggest EU countries around that time and the parallel — but equally complex — process of enlarging and reforming NATO, and the road to the end of the century looks increasingly hazardous.

Here is Europe's timetable for the coming period:

1996

December 13-14 — Regular EU Summit in Dublin. Irish presidency will present draft treaty reform package.

1997

January 1 — Netherlands takes over EU presidency.

May (latest date) — British general elections. With one-seat majority and internal dissent, current Conservative government has little room for maneuver over Europe before the poll.

Spring/summer — Special NATO Summit to select countries who will be invited to negotiate membership. Will Russian resistance to expanding the alliance to its borders be overcome by then?

June 16-17 — EU Summit in Amsterdam to agree new treaty.

July 1 — Luxembourg takes over EU presidency.

Summer/autumn — European Commission publishes formal opinions on EU membership applications from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

Summer/autumn — EU states launch campaigns to ratify treaty of Amsterdam. Several will need to hold referendums.

Summer/autumn — European Commission publishes first proposals for future financing of European Union from 2000 onwards. Some existing poorer members who benefit from budget arrangements have threatened not to ratify new treaty or allow enlargement until financial review is settled.

End-1997 — Formal start of membership negotiations with Cyprus, Malta and Central and East European countries who receive favorable opinion from commission.

1998

January 1 — Britain takes over EU presidency

March — French parliamentary elections.

Spring — Special summit to decide which countries eligible to join single currency — the Euro — in 1999.

July 1 — Austria takes over EU presidency.

Autumn — General elections in Germany.

1999

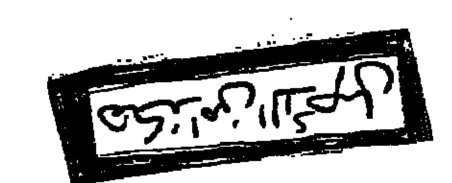
January 1 — Germany takes over EU presidency. Exchange rates of countries participating in Euro "irrevocably locked".

(Reuter)

UN Envoy to Hold Talks With Burundi Leaders

BUJUMBURA — UN special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi arrived in Bujumbura for talks with Burundi leader Pierre Buyoya and other senior figures ahead of a regional summit later this week.

Neighboring states imposed an embargo on Burundi after the July 25 coup which brought Buyoya to power, and the measures are to be discussed when heads of state meet for the summit in Arusha, Tanzania. (Contd on Pg. 23)



هكذا من الأجمل

Demining the World

Tehran Times Service
By Gwynne Dyer

"The movement of countries on this issue is like a landslide," said Jody Williams, coordinator of the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines. "It's breathtaking."

In the past few months, 40 countries have declared their support for a total ban on antipersonnel mines — and 63 countries, including all the major military powers except China, have shown up in Ottawa for a conference (3-5 October) to plan a global ban on these cheap and very nasty weapons.

It is one of the fastest turnabouts in diplomatic history, for only last May an elaborately prepared United Nations conference to curb the use of land mines ended in almost complete failure. The 'First Review Conference on Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious and indiscriminate' (no, I didn't make it up) labored mightily in Vienna for months — and gave birth to the scrawniest mouse imaginable.

The negotiators agreed that everything would remain as it is for another nine years, except that all mines must contain at least eight grams of metal to make them detectable. After the year 2005, a new rule would permit countries to possess and deploy only 'smart' antipersonnel mines that automatically self-destruct or disarm within 30 days, with 90 percent reliability.

"The impact which land mines are having, both on the civilian population and on the economy as a whole in affected countries, is so appalling, so devastating, that a total ban on all antipersonnel mines is the only solution," said UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, expressing his "deep disappointment" with the result. Most of the countries at the Vienna conference agreed — but under UN rules, only unanimously agreed changes get through.

A total ban on all antipersonnel mines is the only solution to their devastating and appalling impact

The final document was certainly an inadequate response to a global problem that kills or maims around 500 people a week. Antipersonnel mines are ultra-cheap (as little as $3 each), they are designed to cause horrible wounds that will overstress the medical resources available — and they don't notice when the war is over.

There are an estimated 110 million antipersonnel mines lurking just beneath the soil in dozens of countries that have been visited by war in the past few decades, and everywhere they go on killing long after the conflict has ended. At least a third of the people they kill and injure are women and children. Huge tracts of agricultural land remain abandoned for decades because of the danger and the high cost (up to $1,000 per mine) of clearing them.

Making a new rule that 90 percent of mines laid after 2005 have to deactivate themselves after a month is hardly a useful way to address this ongoing calamity. As the International Committee of the Red Cross observed, the conference's "woefully inadequate decisions will encourage the production, transfer and use of a new generation of (smart) mines..." and "are unlikely to significantly reduce the level of civilian land mine casualties."

But sometimes things have to get worse before they get better. A few countries, frustrated by the way that the UN's consensus rule let a small number of mine-exporting countries thwart the will of the majority at Vienna, decided to convene another conference outside the UN system. Canada, which has lost 34 soldiers killed or maimed by mines on UN peacekeeping operations in the past five years, agreed to host it. And then the avalanche started.

There are an estimated 110 million antipersonnel mines lurking just beneath the soil in dozens of countries that have been visited by war in the past few decades

At first, only about a dozen countries were expected at the Ottawa meeting, but suddenly the issue took off. Six NATO countries, including Germany, have now destroyed their stockpiles of antipersonnel mines or set deadlines for doing so. A group of 15 high-ranking former U.S. officers, including ex-Joint chiefs of staff chairman General David Jones, and Persian Gulf war commander General Norman Schwartzkopf, have called a total ban "not only humane, but also militarily responsible."

And besides the 40 countries openly committed to a ban, a further two dozen nations (including Russia) showed up at the Ottawa conference as observers. Many are clearly ready to board this ship if it ever leaves port. But will it?

The Canadian government is cautious. "The purpose is to get as many states as possible to agree on the need to ban antipersonnel mines," said Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman John Bell, "and in the long term, to achieve an agreement on early negotiations on a global ban."

In other words, this is a meeting to prepare the ground for an eventual agreement on holding a conference where the issue is actually negotiated. A very slow-motion avalanche, you might say — but a significant one, nevertheless. Nothing ever gets done much faster than this in multilateral negotiations, and the shift in international opinion in the past six months has been remarkable.

If the tide continues to rise, it will carry along many countries that are still reluctant, for the domestic lobby in favor of continued production and sale of antipersonnel mines is not particularly rich or influential anywhere. If government think that opposing a ban will do them significant damage in world public opinion, they will cut their losses and change sides quite fast.

The last times I got caught in a minefield and had to walk out, in Lebanon in 1982, I happened to be on camera. I thought I had stayed fairly cool about it, but looking at the film afterwards you could see how high my feet went with each step, and how reluctantly they came down again.

I find it hard to imagine what it would be like to walk through a minefield everyday on the way to work — but that is what millions of people on this planet have to do every day. And everyday another 80 or 90 of them lose their limbs, their genitals, their sight, or their lives. It really is high time to stop making these 'weapons'.

A total ban is possible, and it could come in only a year or so if the present momentum is maintained. The Ottawa conference is a good start.

Mexican Rebels Mull Trip to Capital

SAN CRISTOBAL, Mexico — Mexico's Zapatista rebels are considering a controversial and possibly dangerous trip from their jungle hideaway to the nation's capital.

Leaders of the Zapatista National Liberation Organization haven't said whether they will leave their encampment near the border with Guatemala to attend an October 8-12 meeting of indigenous groups in Mexico City, but a decision is expected very soon.

The Mexican government has already said it is firmly opposed to any such move, labelling it a "provocation" and arguing that the Zapatistas would be breaking a 1995 law restricting their presence to the southern state of Chiapas.

But the Mexican military has not beefed up the security presence at the edge of the Lacandon Forest, suggesting that it would not prevent the rebels from leaving.

About 60 people associated with non-governmental groups from Mexico and abroad have arrived in San Cristobal and 30 others were expected to accompany the Zapatista leadership should they decide to make the trek.

On Friday, a spokesman for the rebels' political arm called the march a peaceful activity.

Led by the ski-masked, pipe-smoking man known by his Nom de Guerre Subcomandante Marcos, the Zapatistas rose up against the federal government in Chiapas on January 1, 1994.

At first, the group demanded better social and economic conditions for the people of this heavily indigenous Maya state, the country's second poorest. It later expanded demands to include national democratic political reform.

Marcos has said the Zapatistas have no connection to any other armed movement, in particular the Revolutionary Popular Army (EPR) which surfaced on June 28 in the southern state of Guerrero. In August, EPR attacks on military and police targets left 17 people dead.

Even though no one in San Cristobal seems to know if the rebels will emerge from the jungle, organizers have made extensive preparations including choosing a route, setting up security and deciding where to overnight.

The Zapatistas are expected to garner plenty of supporter, should they decide to make the trek.

"We are happy and we are preparing to receive them as heroes, as brothers, with hope and light," said Enrique Calderon, head of Civil Alliance, a group focusing on electoral reform.

(AFP)

Slowpoke Britain Will Continue to Set EU's Integration Pace

DUBLIN, Ireland — The European Union has recommitted itself to an ambitious agenda of change and expansion. But friction lies ahead as Britain - the EU's traditional slowpoke - sets the pace of further European integration.

The 15 EU leaders ended a one-day summit Saturday, determined to overhaul the EU ahead of enlargement. Only after the negotiations can the EU start talks, planned for 1998, to admit a dozen newcomers, mostly Eastern European nations. The scenario is optimistic.

Looming over the debate about change is the fate of British Prime Minister John Major's government, which must call elections within seven months.

Major's Conservative Party has a one-seat majority and is consumed by a debate over widening the EU's powers - an issue bound to overshadow the party's annual conference opening Tuesday.

Since 1979, when the Conservatives came to office, Britain has been wary of its partners' readiness to water down national powers.

Today Major is seen as a hostage to the divisions in his ranks, unable to make a constructive contribution to European integration.

The Dutch, Austrian and Portuguese leaders publicly wished opposition Labour leader Tony Blair well last week in the next British elections.

It was a rude gesture that showed Major gets no respect from his counterparts, who remember this year's bruising fight over combating mad cow disease in Britain - and London's retaliatory veto of EU decisions.

In the debate over change, proposals are under discussion to overhaul EU housekeeping rules that could paralyze the union after 12 new countries join.

The changes touch, among other things, on more majority voting, ending the national veto right, a bigger say for the European Parliament and the powers of the European Commission, the EU Executive Agency in Brussels, Belgium.

While some union members see more efficiency, Britain sees more yielding of national sovereignty to some European superstate.

The debate began in March and has made no progress because of Britain's minimalist stance in the talks that Major defended at the Dublin summit, repeating his favorite line on Europe, "look before you leap."

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl backed away from a suggestion that he would settle for minor EU changes to win British support.

Irish Prime Minister and summit host John Bruton was eager not to blame London. He said Britain "tended to ask more questions in the early stage of decision making."

Others were less generous.

European Parliament President Klaus Haensch wondered why London's partners should "sacrifice their vision of Europe ... to keep on board a government which may jump ship in any case."

Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok said, "There was plenty of political will to speed up" the negotiations. "Now it has to be seen whether there is enough political will for compromise."

The Netherlands assumes the EU presidency from Ireland in January.

(AFP)

New System, But Lack of Clear Issues in Japan Polls

TOKYO — Japan goes to the polls in general elections on October 20, the first test of a new single-seat electoral system, lacking clear issues needed to cure widespread voter apathy.

Ahead of official campaigning starting Tuesday, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is in a commanding position to continue its rule, whether along or with smaller partners in a coalition, recent surveys said.

The only new force to appear is the Democratic Party, a liberal group led by Yukio Hatoyama, scion of a family which bred three generations of politicians, and Naoto Kan, a former peace activist and popular health minister who spearheaded a probe of a 10-year-old aids scandal.

Japan will also test a new electoral system for the Lower House, the decisive chamber in Parliament, by combining 300 members chosen in single-seat districts and 200 members elected by proportional representation in 11 regional blocs. The new house will have 500 seats, down from 512 at present.

The new system replaces 129 multi-member constituencies, blamed as a root cause of corruption because candidates were forced to spend lavishly in their campaigns.

(Reuter)

Spain's Conservatives Split on 'Dirty War' on ETA

MADRID — Spain's grand old man of the right on Sunday shrugged off as mere mistakes the crimes of a 1980s 'dirty war' on Basque rebels, revealing a split in the ruling Conservatives on how far to bound their socialist predecessors.

"It isn't state terrorism to fight against terrorism, even if it's badly done, even if it's done illegally," Manuel Fraga, a former minister under the late dictator Francisco Franco and founder of the ruling Popular Party, told the daily *El Pais*.

His statements contrasted sharply with those of Deputy Prime Minister Francisco Alvarez Cascos, who last week accused former socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of having waged 'bodeguilla terrorism' from a wine-cellar in his official residence where he and his aides used to hatch strategies.

"If a gentleman who is fighting terrorism screws up... well, that doesn't make him a terrorist," Fraga said. "They cannot be equated, even in the case of policemen who may make mistakes."

The Supreme Court is considering whether to summon Gonzalez, who was in power from 1982 until May this year, over the 1983-87 campaign of kidnappings, bombings, torture and murder in which 27 people died — one-third of them by mistake.

Gonzalez has denied any role in the illegal drive against ETA (Basque homeland and freedom), a separatist rebel group that has killed nearly 800 people in a drive for independence launched in 1968. His first interior minister and other senior officials are on trial for the 'dirty war'.

Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar will have to opt between backing his mentor Fraga or his number two Alvarez Cascos on Wednesday when he answers a parliamentary question put by the socialists on whether he agrees with his deputy's charges of 'bodeguilla terrorism'.

Aznar used the 'dirty war' scandal as one of his main weapons in campaigning for the general election he won in March. He has since muted his accusations and refused to declassify secret military files requested by courts probing the crimes.

As the debate brewed over whether or not the socialists were guilty of state terrorism, Aznar dodged reporters' questions at the informal European Union summit in Dublin on Saturday and said he would rather look to the future than to the past.

Mounting revelations about the anti-ETA campaign waged by the self-styled anti-terrorist liberation groups (Gal) — a front for security forces and hired gunmen — eventually forced Gonzalez to call the early election in March which he lost.

The socialist leader remains a formidably popular opponent to the Conservatives despite this and other scandals, and a poll in the daily *La Vanguardia* on Sunday gave him a slight edge over Aznar's PP for the first time since the election.

Gonzalez has asked his followers to refrain from answering earlier attacks on him and warned darkly against fratricidal strife of the sort that led to the 1936-39 civil war.

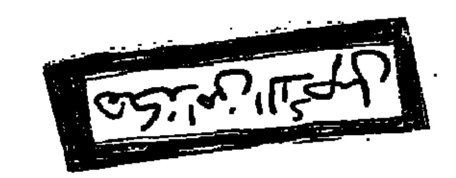
"We cannot slide down the slope of demagogy or of the cain-like politics in which one tries to liquidate one's contenders," he told a party rally last week. "That's behind us, in history. Let us leave it confined to history."

The Popular Party unleashed on Saturday its sharpest attack yet on Gonzalez. The PP's deputy spokesman in Congress told him to face up to his responsibilities for the 'dirty war' and quit as opposition leader.

"He must take the political blame for the things that happened during his term as head of the government," the spokesman, Fernando Lopez Amor, said.

Reuter





Eye-Catching Developments of TCCP During the Last and Current Year



April 25, 1996 marks the day when General Office for Telecommunications of Central Province was transformed into Telecommunications Company of Central Province (TCCP), announced Seyed Ahmad Sajjadi, managing director of the company at a press conference.

He said the measure paved well the way for materialization of the targeted plans in a bid to put the company ahead of the anticipated programs.

With respect to the status of telecommunications and its growth in the country he said: During the OIC (Organization of Islamic Countries) meeting held in Tehran the secretary general of International Telecommunications Union (ITU), Dr. Pekka Tarjanne, said the development in communications sector in Iran has been so eye-catching that "this country can be a training center for the union in the region."

He added: Telecommunications may be considered as the infrastructure of development.

The Data Center of the province established based on the state-of-the-art technology, and with 195 ports will become operational in near future.

Every human society has the right to enjoy this sector. Telecommunications is the basis for development, for which due attention should be paid.

The managing director of TCCP went on to say: During last year 18,500 lines were created and 110 villages were supplied with telecommunications facilities. The rate shows a 25 percent growth. The company has so far paid 23 million rials for its employees for the hard task they have accomplished.

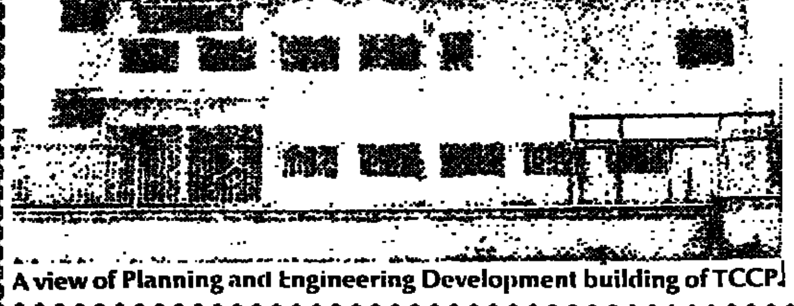
He said during the first six months of the current calendar year 8,500 telephone lines along with 65 rural telecommunications offices have been created by TCCP. In the first half of the year, the company recorded some 107 percent growth for urban telephone network development and 105 percent growth for rural lines ahead of the anticipated program. He expressed hope the rural telecommunications offices will be doubled up by the end of the current year.

He added in creating the aforesaid centers global state-of-the-art technology has been utilized. At present, five centers enjoy fiber optics for making connections with other centers.

Engineer Sajjadi added: Creation of the province's data center is among other telecommunications projects implemented in Central Province. This center consists 196 ports, and is ready to be put on stream. Also mobile system in Saveh is active and covers 30 kilometers of south Saveh.

Engineer Sajjadi: By utilizing five fiber-optic centers, TCCP's state-of-the-art technology conforms to global telecommunications system.

Regarding the achievements of the company in the current Iranian calendar year Sajjadi said 51 projects were implemented during the Government Week in the province. The projects included: 30 telecommunications offices, four 256-line telecommunications centers, three development centers to expand 256 lines to 512 lines, 5 intercity codes, 2 international centers in Nimoor, Mahallat, and Shazand, 6 urban offices, development of Shazand center from 2,300 lines to 3,000 lines, construction of Arak No. 3 Deputy for Development and Engineering, Arak No. 2 & 3 sportsfields, telecommunications houses in Mahallat, Shazand, Astaneh, Khomein, Tafresh, Ashteyan and Saveh.



A view of Planning and Engineering Development building of TCCP

Likewise the necessary equipment for creation of Arak mobile system have been transferred to the city and the installation works along with other physical tasks have all been executed completely. The company is pursuing to link Arak mobile system with Saveh and Tehran systems.

The installation works of Arak mobile system have been fulfilled, and it will become operational by the end of the current calendar year.

For the time present, five special services rendered in telecommunications center of the country are offered in Central Province in No.s 6 & 7 centers, Shazand, Astaneh and Tafresh.

In addition, it is planned to create the same services in Gharq-Abad, Naraq, Zaviyeh, Kamijan and Senjan centers.



The managing director of TCCP answers questions posed by the reporters

As regarding other development programs in Central Province, the managing director of TCCP referred to the second personal computer (PC) center of the province adding that inauguration of this project will improve the present status of communications in the province.

Putting into operation of Mohajeran 3,000-line center, development of Malek Ashtar center from 7,000 lines to 10,000 lines, exploitation of first phase of Arak No. 8 center with 3,000 lines are among other achievements of the Telecommunications Company of Central Province.

According to the managing director of TCCP, Central Province deserves a good stand in telecommunications sector of Iran. It stood fifth last year concerning creation of urban and rural telecommunications centers.

Is is planned that during the Five-Year Development Plan, all villages with over 100 population be supplied with telecommunications facilities.

Noting the point that administration of rural telephone offices is handed over to the post company, Sajjadi said for the time present, the company shares 260 joint offices with the post company.

Following the request by the subscribers of telephone in Central Province, the deadline for the subscription is extended: Subscription on special terms with advance payment of Rls. 200,000 on 50,000-rial instalments for 12 months for personnel of the armed forces (on the occasion of the Sacred Defense Week). For general public the advance payment will be Rls. 300,000 on 50,000-rial instalments for ten months. The deadline is extended till Oct. 21, 1996.



Machine Sazi Arak (P.J.S.)

Machine Sazi Arak (MSA)

First Holder of ISO 9001 Certificate, Pioneer in Oil & Gas Industries and Boiler Production

Machine Sazi Arak (MSA) Company Ltd., as a leading machine manufacturing plant in Iran, was set up in 1968. Due to the rapid technological growth during the first 20 years of its establishment, MSA found it necessary to set up a new organization in order to manage a wide range of activities.

MSA based on the composite management system, was reorganized into 5 groups in 1988 as follows:

- **The Metallurgical Production Group**
- **The Steel Structure Group**
- **The Machining & Assembling Group**
- **The erection & Installation Group**
- **The Education Centers**

Enjoying 4,000 experts and skilled personnel as well as up-to-the-minute equipment, MSA has manufactured various types of products. It has several underway projects while having executed other projects inside the country.

Applying international standards and having ISO 9001 Certificate have convinced our customers to fully trust us.

Products

- ☑ Fire-tube boilers up to 50,000 lbs/hr
- ☑ LPG tanks up to 30,000 gallons
- ☑ Mobile LPG tanks up to 12,000 gallons
- ☑ Fixed and floating roof storage tanks with more than 1,000,000 barrels cap
- ☑ Various types of pressure spherical vessels, and refinery and petrochemical towers
- ☑ Gas heaters, filters, and heat exchangers
- ☑ Mobile and tower cranes in different sizes and capacities
- ☑ Dish-ends for oil and gas equipment
- ☑ Railway tires and axles
- ☑ Forged pressure flanges up to 2,500 PSI
- ☑ High-quality rods alloy steel ingots
- ☑ Steel grinding balls, 10-100 mm diameter
- ☑ Mine equipment such as conveyor belts, feeders, wagonetters, etc.
- ☑ Forging and machining of heavy parts
- ☑ Reduction gearboxes
- ☑ Crusher spare parts

Samples of Projects

- * Bridges of Bafgh-Bandar Abbas Railway, designed for two express trains crossing simultaneously
- * Huge steel structures for 4 Boeing 747 aircraft hangars having 11,000 tons weight and 154 meters span
- * 220-meter high chimneys in Shahid Rajaei Thermal Power Plant
- * Aromatic towers in Isfahan Petrochemical Complex
- * Bandar Abbas Refinery's spherical vessels, 3,000 m^3 cap
- * Steel structures for manufacturing companies such as Azar Ab, Boroujerd Textile Company, Yazd Alloy Steel Manufacturing Company, Al-Mahdi Aluminum Manufacturing Company, etc.
- * Fixed and floating roof storage tanks in refineries of Arak, Isfahan, Bandar Abbas, Tabriz, etc.
- * Huge 1,330,000 barrels cap floating roof storage tank in Isfahan Refinery
- * Emergency, truss, lattice, suspended, and ... bridges in four corners of the country
- * Ingot tranferring lines of Mobarakeh Steel Manufacturing Plant, having 4,800 tons and many others

Familiarity With Products of MSA Co. Ltd.

Having over 25 years of experience in production of diverse goods, Machine Sazi Arak is proud to have rendered its services to improve the country's industrial and economic reconstruction and also it has promoted plans to utilize domestic resources to attain economic self-sufficiency.

1) Boilers According to BS 2790 Standard

The fire tube boilers manufactured by the MSA, have different capacities- ranging from 2,470 to 50,000 pounds with a 150 PSI. They are manufactured under the license of Britain's John Thompson Cochran.

This year, the 22,500-pound model with a 250 PSI has been manufactured at home and offered to the purchasers.

The thermal power of the 250 PSI boilers is 185 degrees centigrade. These boilers are divided into 2 types:

a. Boilers burning gas oil, mazut, or gas.

b. Boilers burning gas oil, mazut with gas circuit

In addition, MSA's boilers will be guaranteed for one and a half years after the delivery and one-year guarantee after installation. Within this period, MSA will offer the following services:

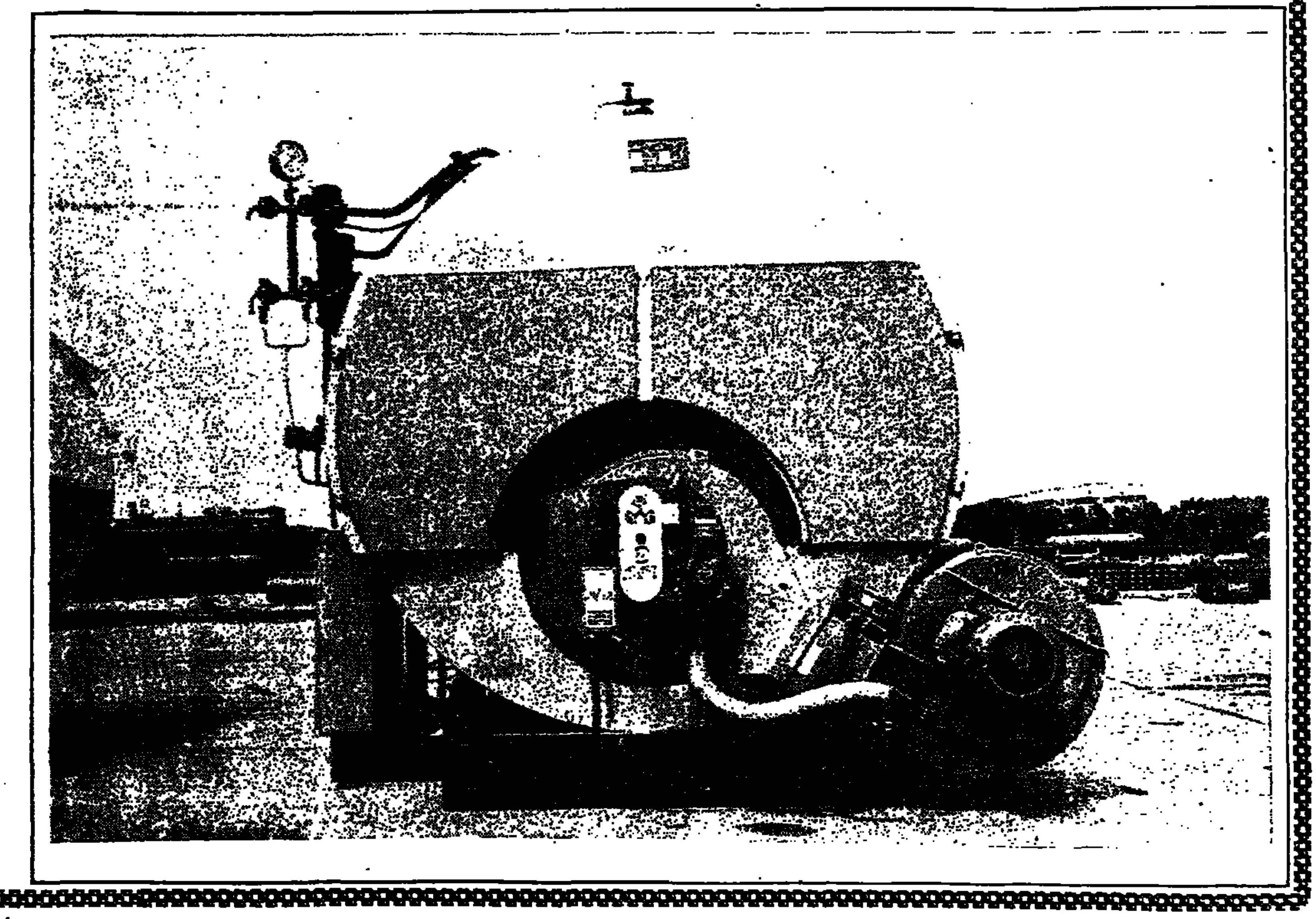
I. Running and testing the boilers

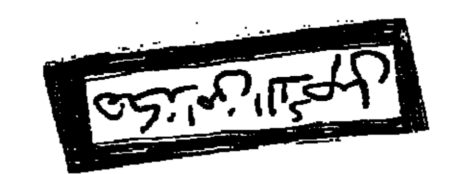
II. Training how to use boilers

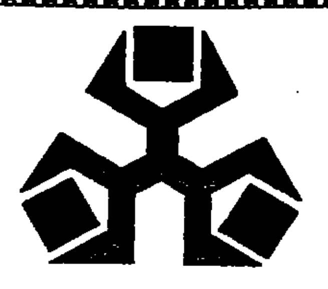
III. Carrying out two stages of free services in the first and third quarters after installation for being sure of the sound work of the boilers

IV. Conducting the needed repairs and providing the required spare parts while the guarantee is valid

Given the importance of providing after-sales services and the parts needed by the customers, MSA has conducted due studies and divided its sales regions. Right now, several companies are engaged in rendering services during the period in which the guarantee is in force and afterwards.







Machine Sazi Arak (P.J.S.)

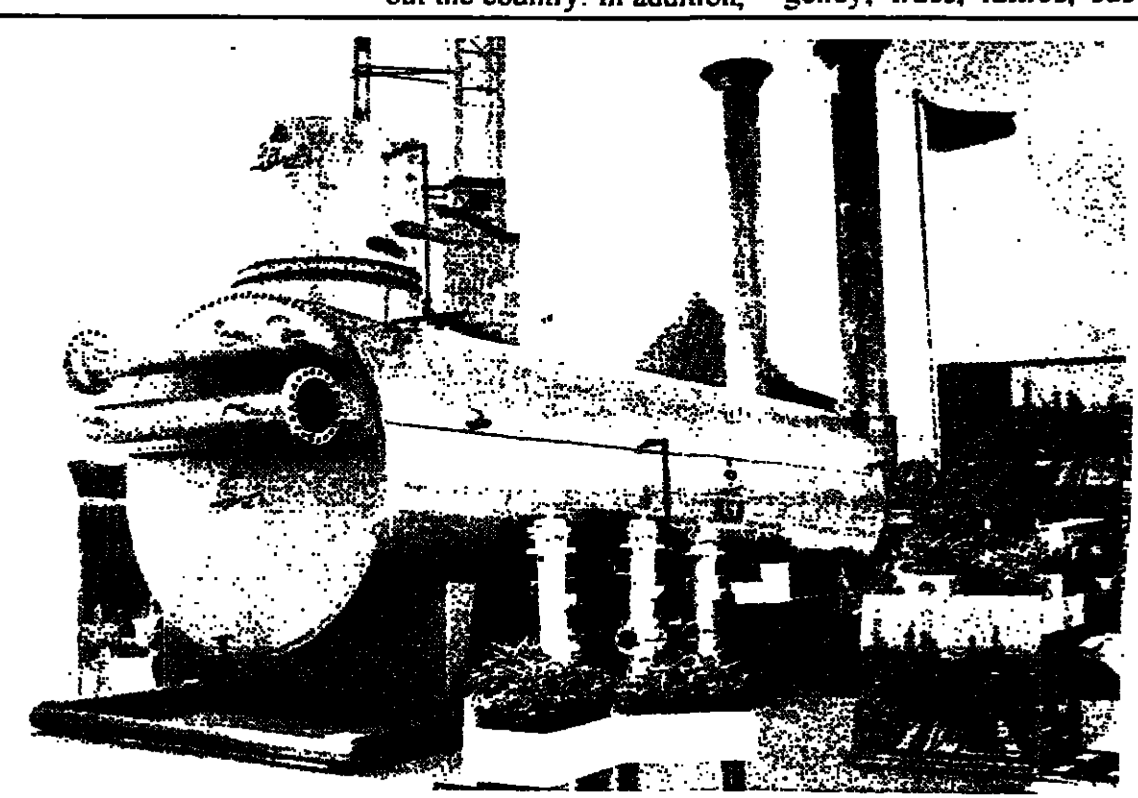
Machine Sazi Arak (MSA)

First Holder of ISO 9001 Certificate, Pioneer in Oil & Gas Industries and Boiler Production

1. LPG Tanks

The LPG tanks which are manufactured by MSA are used to store liquid gas.

The immobile LPG tanks, with capacities ranging from 500 to 30,000 gallons, are manufactured in 9 different sizes. They are designed with a 250 PSI, while they can operate with a 200 PSI.



The mobile LPG tanks, with a capacity of 12,000 gallons, are installed on chassis and delivered while they are ready for installation.

Of course, such LPG tanks with a capacity of 4,500 gallons can be used as mobile tanks installed on 10-ton trucks.

These tanks are manufactured in conformity with the U.S. ASME and D.O.T. CODE and the standards of Iran's National Oil Company

3) 25-Ton Cranes

The 25-ton cranes (A 300 Model), holding a production license from the French PPM Company, are one of the most modern mobile cranes modern mobile cranes manufactured by Machine Sazi Arak Company Limited.

The contracts to manufacture these cranes are based on technology transfer. Eleven of these cranes have been delivered to France on the basis of the buy back system.

These cranes have been highly acclaimed so far. Notably, the Ports and Shipping Organization has so far purchased tens of these cranes being used in the country's ports.

Interestingly, the said cranes enjoy guarantees and after-sales services throughout the country. In addition, during the first year, they will be inspected and repaired twice free-of-charge.

2. Tower Cranes

The mobile and immobile tower cranes are manufactured as Model 315 D and Model 427 M under the license of the French Potain Company

A. Model 427 M

This crane is manufactured in mobile and immobile form with accessories. Model 427 M will be able to lift between 750 to 3,000 kilograms with a maximum height of 36 meters at an angle of zero degree

B. Model 315 D

This type of crane, being both mobile and immobile, can lift between 1,000 to 3,000 kilograms with a maximum height of 20 meters at an angle of zero degree.

Such cranes also enjoy guarantees. To expedite the activities, all after-sales services are rendered by official and credible agents. These cranes also enjoy free-of-charge services.

5. Metal Skeleton Bridges

The bridges constructed by MSA are designed in accordance with the AASHTO Standard. They are emergency, truss, lattice, suspended, and ... metal bridges which are constructed in accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Roads and Transportation for trucks with a capacity of 45 tons and/or tanks with a capacity of 70 tons.

A. Truss Bridges

The Warren Truss bridges have a span of 12 to 45 meters and a width of 5 meters. These bridges are fully metallic and are constructed using ST52-3 steel that endures different climatic conditions.

B. Lattice Bridges

The lattice bridges have a span of 15 to 60 meters and a width of 10 meters for vehicles and 1.25 meters as sidewalk on both sides.

The bridge deck is made of concrete and thus serves as a part of the bridge. It is also economical, as it blends metal and concrete.

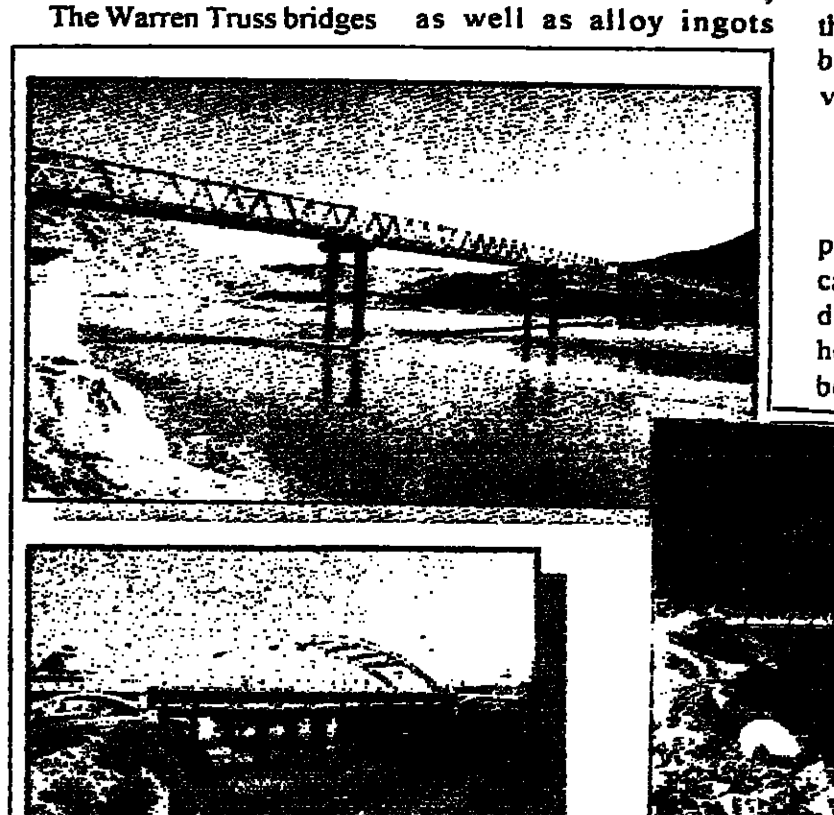
In 1993, two arch bridges with a length of 52 meters and a width of 12 meters and a nominal weight of 175 tons (each) were designed and constructed by the Machine Sazi Arak Company.

The bridges were constructed and installed in the region on the orders of the Head Office of Roads and Transportation of the Province of Khuzestan.

In case the customers wish, MSA can install its bridges.

Future Plans

Given the equipment it has purchased, Machine Sazi Arak Company can, in the near future, embark upon manufacturing various types of joint-free pipes with a diameter of at most one meter, as well as alloy ingots through the VODC method.





Pressure Vessels and Reservoirs

General Information

Tanks manufactured by MSA are divided into two types: reservoirs and pressure vessels. The first type is used in refineries, power stations, as well as other industrial areas as stationary and suspended.

The second is used for gas transfer in the refineries, chemical plants, food factories, also for compressed air reserving.

The other usage of such vessels is as shock absorber in water distribution units. There are two groups of these vessels designed as stationary and mobile.

The mobiles are used for transferring oil and gas products, as well as hazardous and flammable materials.

The stationaries, based on their usage and location, will be divided into two types: vertical and horizontal.

General Specifications

The usual shape of the pressure vessels is cylindrical or spherical with ellipsoidal, dished, or spherical heads. Spherical heads can be provided through hot or cold forming.

Technical Properties

Design and fabrication of pressure vessels are based on different parameters, including working pressure, temperature, temperature material, volume, weight, atmospheric loads, corrosion, and erosion.

1. Working pressure depends on thickness, permissible stress, welding procedure, and testing so that the Design Department of MSA, with its past experiences and in conformity with the ASME Code, would be able to change these parameters upon the demand of the customers.

2. Temperature is another factor which influences the design of pressure vessels. This is under the supervision of the Design Department of Machine Sazi Arak Company.

3. Pressure vessels and reservoirs are made of carbon steel of ASTM, A 283, A 299, A 515, A 516, a 517 and so on. They will be chosen with a view to the allowable stress, temperature, ductility, weldability, and other







Machine Sazi Arak (P.J.S.)

Machine Sazi Arak (MSA)

First Holder of ISO 9001 Certificate, Pioneer in Oil & Gas Industries and Boiler Production

parameters.

4. The vessel volume is determined in accordance with the conditions of installation and demands of the customers.

5. The entire production stage comprises of material selection, scraping, cutting, mechanical tests, rolling, welding, assembly of dish ends up to the thickness of 32 mm and the diameter of 5.5 m. The entire process will be under the strict supervision of the quality control staff.

6. Influence of atmospheric conditions as extra loads (vertical + horizontal) will be calculated under different conditions and considered in coming up with the vessel's design.

7. To increase the vessels' useful life, the vessels should be annually inspected throughout the period in which they are being used.

8. The final thickness of the material used will be determined with a view to corrosion resistance and precalculated thickness.

Mechanical Calculations

Standards for the design and production of pressure vessels and reservoirs are divided into the American STD, ASME, and API, the British STD, and the Italian and German STD.

Therefore, MSA uses the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and the API (American Petrochemical Institute) STD.

According to the said STD, thickness and other dimensions, welding details, material and other parameters will be determined, after which technical drawings and details will be prepared.

Different fittings including inlet and outlet, nozzles manhole or hand holes, pressure gauge seat and emergency discharge nozzle, thermometer and level meter will be added, based on necessity.

Then the production method will be presented by the Method Engineering Department.

Quality Control and Different Tests

After completion, the hydrostatic test must be carried out. The hydrostatic test pressure is the working pressure plus fifty percent of it to check the storage and leakage. This is because the tank's forming and welding must be stress relieved.

Stress relief in MSA at a furnace with dimensions of about 4.5 by 5.5 by 6.5 m will be done after production. This process will be under the supervision of the Design Department. Radiography (in full or as spots) is also carried out.



Familiarity With Machine Sazi Arak Company's Educational Complex

Machine Sazi Arak Company's Educational Complex was set up in order to train the experts and competent manpower as technical laborers, technicians, specialists, senior specialists, trainees, and employees undergoing refresher courses of MSA and other domestic industries.

The complex consists of the following two parts:

1. Center for Industrial Education and Research
2. Faculty of Applied Engineering

Center for Industrial Education and Research

The Center for Industrial Education and Research was set up in 1969 (Khordad 1348) to train the required experts and competent manpower for MSA.

So far more than 20,000 employees of MSA and other companies, institutes, and organs have undergone education at this center and are now engaged in working in this field.

Altogether, this center can hold 38 applied educational programs at different levels.

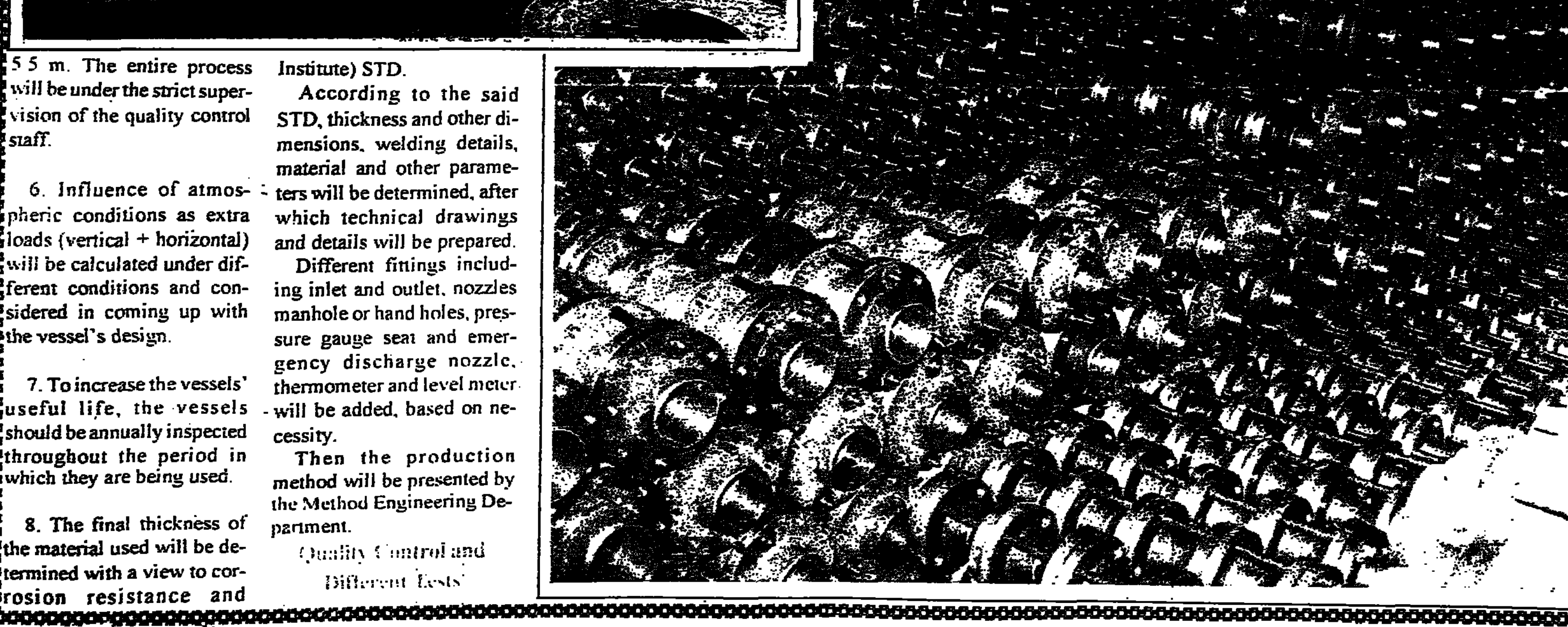
Faculty of Applied Engineering

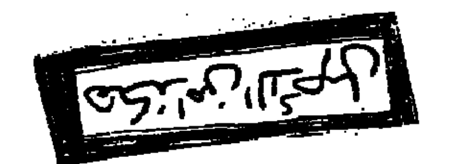
The Faculty of Applied Engineering was set up in 1983 in the Industrial Township of Arak.

Admissions to the applied mechanical engineering program commenced in 1984 (Mehr 1363).

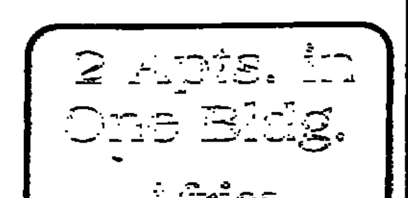
The faculty has gradually increased its domain of activities, so much that today, it offers programs at the undergraduate level for mechanical engineering and metallurgical engineering, while it has applied graduate programs in mechanical engineering, industrial engineering, and metallurgical engineering.

Factory: Km 4 of Tehran Road, Arak P.O. Box: 148
Telephone Center: (0861) 30031-9, 35201-9
Marketing and Sales Department Tel: 31089,33142
Public Relations Department Tel: 31034 Fax: 33103
Tehran Office: Opposite the Faculty of Economics,
North Kargar Ave., Tehran P.O. Box: 14155/3145
Telephone: 8020330-33 Fax: 8020340









Duplex, 300 sq.m, 3 bedrs each, 3 baths, indoor pool, sauna Jacuzzi, nice furniture.

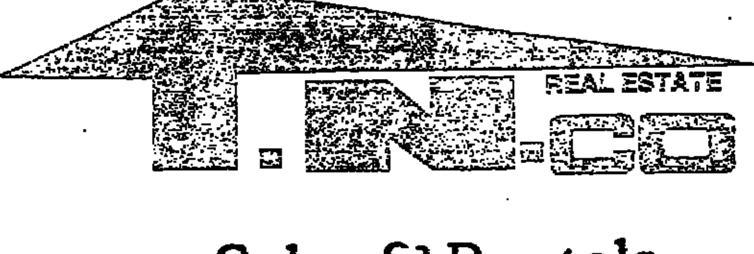
Mr. King

Tel & Fax: 2049878

THE ULTIMATE IN REAL ESTATE

TEL: 2049292 - (24 Lines)

31. MODARRES & AFRICA JUNCTION



Sales & Rentals

Residential & Commercial Property

Tel: 200 5708

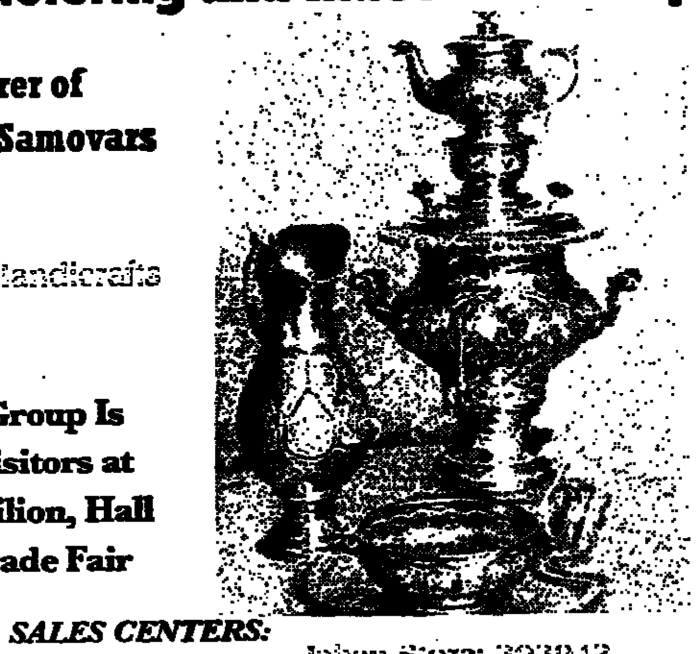
We don't waste your time.

With our experience in Real Estate, you will be sure to find the best.

Zanjani Manufacturing and Industrial Group

The First Manufacturer of Standardized Decorative Samovars for Export

Distributor of All Kinds of Handicrafts Throughout Iran



Zanjani Mfg. & Indus. Group Is Ready to Welcome All Visitors at Taavon (cooperative) Pavilion, Hall 27, 22nd Tehran Int'l Trade Fair

SALES CENTERS:

Central Office Tel: 302829
Zanjani Nickel Store: 3118504
Jahan Store: 303942
Nagar Store: 6422213



RENT&SALE



Apt. & Villa
Best Area

The new foreign Rental Agent of Robinson with experienced guides, is at your service.

Try Us.

2056045
2054022 ☎
2052344 Fax

No. 60, Maryam St., Africa Ave., 1thf

Save Time and Money

call us for free assistance.

The 850 Housing Agency is ready to help with the computerized network systems and experienced agents.

The **850** *HOUSING AGENCY*

Tel: 8 74 74 74 or Twice 850

Not Very Far From the Fair

Beds, Rooms, Apts. & Villas.

2278043 - 2225615

Raeissian

ARIAN APARTMENT HOTEL

COMFORT OF A HOME, CONVENIENCE OF A HOTEL.

WE OFFER A NEW CHOICE IN FIRST CLASS HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS.

TEL: 8018546-8 FAX: 8018547

PORTS AND SHIPPING ORGANIZATION

PSO

TENDER 75/EM/299

PLEASE BE INFORMED THAT P.S.O INTENDS TO TENDER THE PURCHASE OF: ONE UNIT TUG-BOAT 1200 HP.

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO RECEIVE THE TENDER DOCUMENTS FROM SECTION OF TECHNICAL & ENGINEERING DEPT., GROUND FLOOR, NO. 16, SHAHID SAIDI ALLEY, BETWEEN NEJATOLLAHI ST. & HAFEZ ST., ENQELAB AVE., TEHRAN-IRAN.

AGAINST A RECEIPT OF 50,000 RIALS PAID TO ACC. NO. 822 WITH CENTRAL BANK OF IRAN TOGETHER WITH A FORMAL REPRESENTATION LETTER. ALL WORKING DAYS FROM 9 TO 11 A.M. BY THE DATE OF THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT.

ALL PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED LATEST BY 10 A.M. LOCAL TIME ON OCTBER 26, 1996.

ENVELOPES SHALL BE OPENED AT PRESENCE OF THE BIDDERS' REPRESENTATIVES ONE HOUR LATER ON THE SAME DAY.

COMPUTER

IN THREE WEEKS

FOR ALL LEVELS IN ENGLISH BY UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR.

2201744 (D.D)

EMPLOYMENT

AN IRANIAN COMPANY IS SEEKING FOR A MALE ENGINEER, EXPERIENCE IN CHEMICAL, PHYSICS, OR ELECTRONICS, HAVING AN ANALYTICAL BACKGROUND AND PERFECT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE. PLEASE CONTACT TEL. NO. 898089/894684



DACOTRANS GROSSKOPF GMBH & CO. KG

INTERNATIONAL FORWARDERS - CONSULTANTS TRANSPORT CONTRACTORS

Uerdinger Str. 56, 40474 Duesseldorf, Abteilung 205

Tel: 0211/4556-0

Fax: 0211/4556-280

Tlx: ... Dacotrans

DONYA BAR

INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING CO. LTD.

Main Office: No. 20, 35TH ST., Khaled Eslamboli Ave., 15168 TEHRAN-IRAN

P.O.Box: 15815 - 1534

Tel: 8781450 - 8781451
8774853 - 8774854

Fax: 8773951

Tlx: 213085 DMBR IR

Jahan Jadeh

International Forwarding
Transit & customs clearance

Address: # 362 North Bahar St., Tehran

Tel: 8828475 **Fax:** 836952

Tlx: 214341 **P.O.Box:** 15745/767

TEHRAN – IRAN

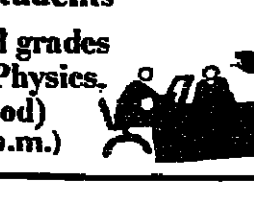
Attention All Foreign Students





Teaching all subjects for all grades especially 0 level (Maths, Physics, Chemistry...GCSE (method)

Pls. call: 2561690 (6-9 p.m.)



The Chinese Restaurant

中華飯店

THE ONLY GENUINE CHINESE FOOD IN TOWN

No. 3, Abdo St., opp. Fatemi, Vali Asr Ave.

Tel: 890 714 - 8810163

ADVERTISEMENT

Tel: 8811739 - 8811740

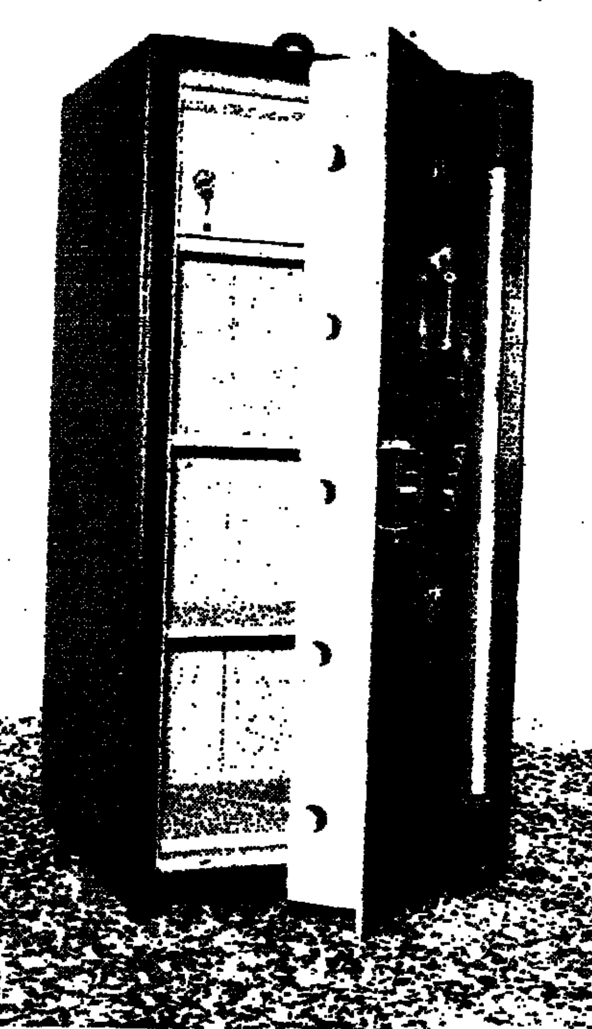
Fax: 8808214





KAVEH

Welcomes All the Visitors at Mostazafan & Janbazan Foundation, Hall 19, 22nd Tehran Int'l Trade Fair





Kaveh, the Only Standard Safe Box in Iran

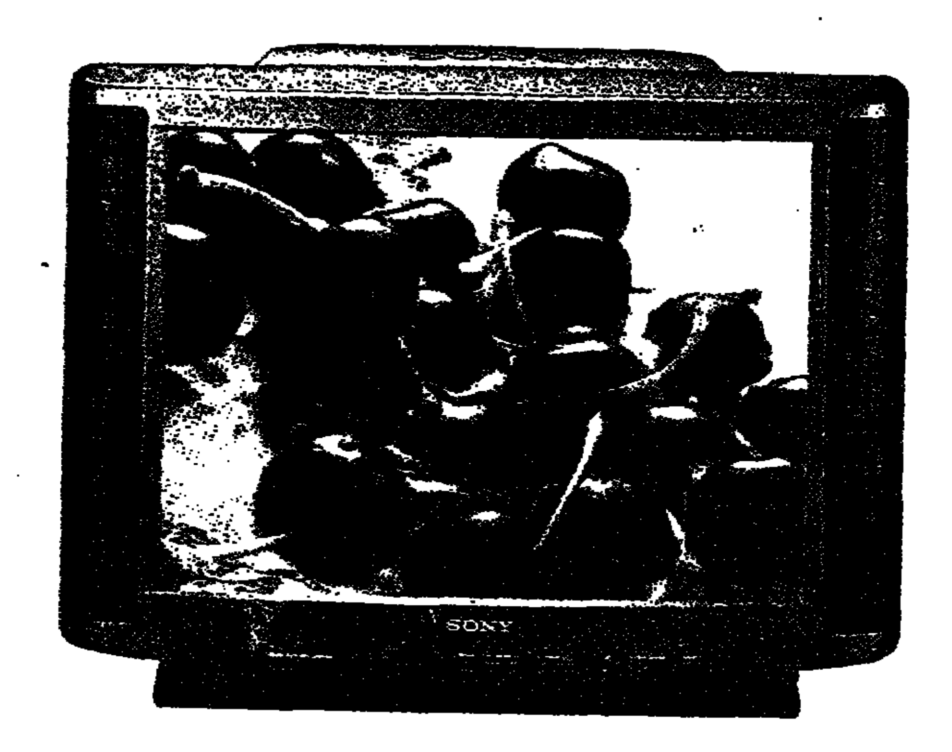
Address: # 35-37, Kaveh Bldg., Beginning of Sepahbod Qarani St., Ferdowsi Sq. Postal Code: 15816
Tel: 838056-9 Tlx: 212738 KAWE-IR Fax: 839660
Factory: Km 14 of Ab-Ali Rd.
Tel: 7332265 - 7333579 Telegraph: Kaveh Group

Super Trinitron





Welcomes All the Visitors at 22nd Tehran International Trade Fair



Sony Services Center:
266, Africa Intersection, Mirdamad Ave.
Tel: 8798689 - 8792991 - 8784709
Fax: 8787553

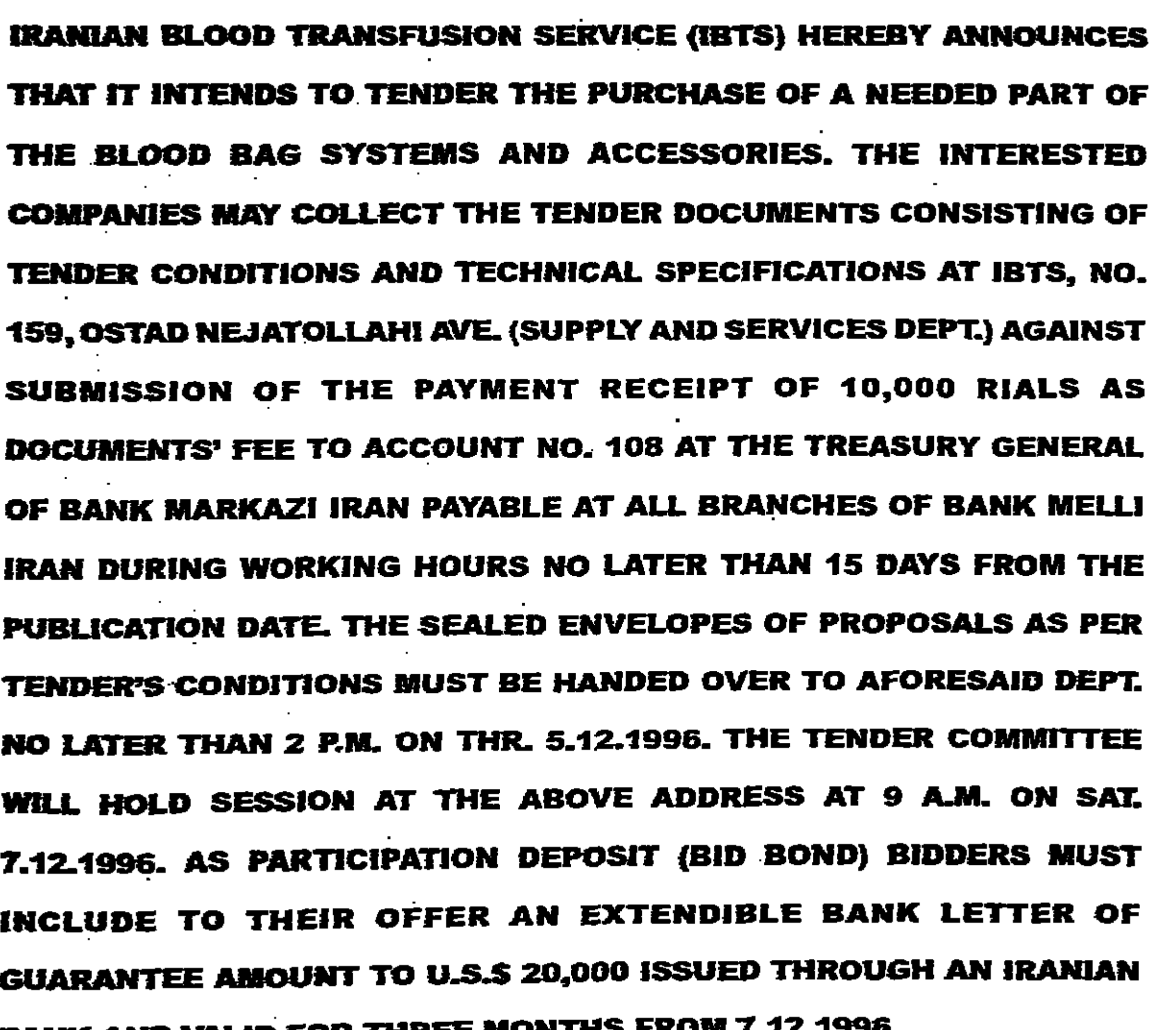
Sony Central Exhibition:
67, Opposite Barak Store, Corner of Sheikh Hadi St., Jomhouri Ave.
Tel: 6459696 - 6453908 - 671392
Fax: 673884

IN THE NAME OF GOD

INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT



NO. 75/FS/1192



IRANIAN BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE (IBTS) HEREBY ANNOUNCES THAT IT INTENDS TO TENDER THE PURCHASE OF A NEEDED PART OF THE BLOOD BAG SYSTEMS AND ACCESSORIES. THE INTERESTED COMPANIES MAY COLLECT THE TENDER DOCUMENTS CONSISTING OF TENDER CONDITIONS AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS AT IBTS, NO. 159, OSTAD NEJATOLLAHI AVE. (SUPPLY AND SERVICES DEPT.) AGAINST SUBMISSION OF THE PAYMENT RECEIPT OF 10,000 RIALS AS DOCUMENTS' FEE TO ACCOUNT NO. 108 AT THE TREASURY GENERAL OF BANK MARKAZI IRAN PAYABLE AT ALL BRANCHES OF BANK MELLI IRAN DURING WORKING HOURS NO LATER THAN 15 DAYS FROM THE PUBLICATION DATE. THE SEALED ENVELOPES OF PROPOSALS AS PER TENDER'S CONDITIONS MUST BE HANDED OVER TO AFORESAID DEPT. NO LATER THAN 2 P.M. ON THR. 5.12.1996. THE TENDER COMMITTEE WILL HOLD SESSION AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS AT 9 A.M. ON SAT. 7.12.1996. AS PARTICIPATION DEPOSIT (BID BOND) BIDDERS MUST INCLUDE TO THEIR OFFER AN EXTENDIBLE BANK LETTER OF GUARANTEE AMOUNT TO U.S.$ 20,000 ISSUED THROUGH AN IRANIAN BANK AND VALID FOR THREE MONTHS FROM 7.12.1996.

IRANIAN BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

IN THE NAME OF GOD

INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

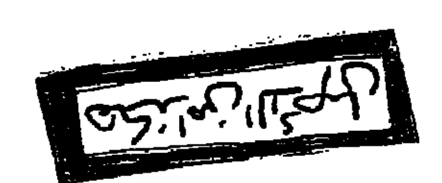
No. 75/RFC/1193

IRANIAN BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE (RESEARCH AND FRACTIONATION CENTER) HEREBY ANNOUNCES THAT IT INTENDS TO TENDER THE PURCHASE OF 67 CHEMICAL ITEMS.

THE INTERESTED COMPANIES MAY COLLECT THE TENDER DOCUMENTS AT IBTS, NO. 159, OSTAD NEJATOLLAHI AVE. (SUPPLY AND SERVICES DEPT.) AGAINST SUBMISSION OF THE PAYMENT RECEIPT OF 10,000 RIALS (AS DOCUMENTS' FEE TO ACCOUNT NO. 108 AT THE TREASURY GENERAL OF BANK MARKAZI IRAN PAYABLE AT ALL BRANCHES OF BANK MELLI IRAN DURING WORKING HOURS NO LATER THAN TWO WEEKS FROM THE PUBLICATION DATE. THE SEALED ENVELOPES OF PROPOSALS AS PER TENDER'S CONDITION MUST BE HANDED OVER TO AFORESAID DEPT. NO LATER THAN 2 P.M. ON 10.11.96 TENDER'S COMMITTEE WILL HOLD SESSTON AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS AT 9:30 A.M. ON 11.11.96 AS PARTICIPATION DEPOSIT (BID BOND).

THE BIDDERS MUST INCLUDE TO THEIR OFFER AN EXTENDIBLE BANK LETTER OF GUARANTEE ISSUED THROUGH AN IRANIAN BANK AND VALID FOR THREE MONTHS FROM 10.11.96 AMOUNT TO FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THEIR TOTAL OFFER.

IRANIAN BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE



هكذا من الأصل

U.S. Troops Begin Official Withdrawal From Bosnia

Rasooli Mahallati on Friday Prayer Leaders' Gathering

Lea



Qa'em Project, in Sponge I Industry i

